

Public Libraries

MONTHLY

Vol. 28

April, 1923

No. 4

Place and Use of Newspapers and Periodicals in Our Public Libraries in Towns*

R. Mabel Dunham, librarian, Public library, Kitchener, Ontario

The Old Librarian was at a convention. Every year his Board sent him there and paid his expenses, too, provided they did not exceed the amount set aside in the estimates for that purpose.

Now the Old Librarian was very grateful to his board for this annual excursion and took home marvelously eulogistic reports of the said convention. These were published in the local press and everybody said that they didn't begrudge the Old Librarian such a pleasant outing even if it did have to come out of the taxes. So once a year the Old Librarian packed his bag and set out jubilantly to attend the great love feast of bibliomaniacs in the city of brains and culture.

One day when he felt it his duty and privilege to listen to some very interesting essays on some very vital library topics, the Old Librarian found that his mind persisted in wandering off to subjects of its own suggestion. It seemed as if he were back home in his own little unpretentious library. All was dark but here and there a ray of light from the street shone in thru the windows dissipating the gloom into something like the softened glow of twilight. Nor was it altogether quiet for strange figures stirred about and spoke in subdued library whispers. The magazines and newspapers were holding a convention in the reading-room!

*Read before Ontario library association at Toronto.

They behaved quite as well as human beings generally do at their conferences. The spirit of the meeting was thoroly democratic but there was a tendency for certain congenial magazines to get together. Those in the bald-headed row moved, seconded and carried unanimously most of the motions while those in the rear, with all the enthusiasm of youth, contributed unstintingly to the applause. It was very noticeable that the more prominent a position a magazine held in periodical literature, the closer he sat to the front and the more persistently he scowled in the direction of the back seats. *The Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature* fully occupied the chair and conducted the business with his usual dignified despatch. The technical magazines were there, tho they said that scientific discoveries and inventions of all kinds were crowding in so fast they could hardly spare the time. The religious publications sat aloof in one corner with an injured air. They said they never felt on quite an equal footing with the other magazines, because the librarian had discriminated against them in refusing to pay for their services. Very near the front sat a number of women's magazines as if anxious to acquaint themselves with the mysterious laws of parliamentary procedure in these dawning days of equal suffrage, while further back sat their sisters clicking their knitting-needles and their tongues in a most disgusting way. The mirth-provoking humorous magazines were there looking

weary. They had had such a hard day, they said, for not another magazine in the place was worked as continuously as they. The sport magazines looked immeasurably bored and the children's magazines were asleep. Scattered here and there in little groups all over the room were the general magazines, while the reviews flitted about from group to group like chattering magpies. Nothing but parasites, *Life* said they were, begging, borrowing and stealing from their contemporaries.

Then there were the newspapers sitting around a table near the front. Inferior as they knew themselves to be in the scale of periodical literature, they seemed determined to emphasize that inferiority. They had a little song with which they entertained the convention during dull numbers on the program. It ran something like this:

The News—there scarcely is a word, I'll venture here to say,
That o'er men's thoughts and fancies holds more universal sway.
The old, the young, the grave, the gay, the wealthy and the poor,
All wish on each succeeding day to hear it o'er and o'er,
Though on each day 'tis always changed from what it was before.

"A heavy plea for light readers" was the subject of a paper read by *The Saturday Evening Post*. He claimed that there was no excuse for leading unsuspecting readers into mental labyrinths and then leaving them to extricate themselves as they would. People allow their brains to be used free of charge and care should be taken not to store them beyond their capacity.

The question of the serial story was raised in the discussion on this paper. The *Atlantic Monthly* wanted to know why the magazines could not preserve their own individuality without continually trying to ape books. The serial story was nothing but a medium of advertisement for those overlords, the books. Few people ever read the serial story because they cannot endure the suspense of waiting month after month for the denouement. Every good reader wants to make a feast of a good story, not to

take it in a piece-meal fashion. Personally he had no objection to people devouring long stories in whatever form they pleased but he, for one, refused to do the catering. The only excuse for a serial story in a magazine was to give its readers an opportunity to judge whether or not they wanted to read it in book form and in his opinion the excuse was not sufficient to warrant the use.

The *English Review of Reviews* agreed with him. He contended that up-to-date people, on account of time-consuming and mind-engaging distractions—and, of course, the war—for many reasons people do not read books but buy magazines regularly. They must know about current events to give animation to their conversation and the magazine that brings to their attention the greatest number of points of interest is the favorite. Indeed, he believed that the day was not far distant when all stories and jokes and other frivolities would be entirely eliminated from periodical literature and the world would settle down to taking their news, like their medicine, periodically and in tabloid form.

There was a stir among the newspapers and the *Globe* rose to vindicate the daily press. "News," he said, "is a food that men's minds require every morning as regularly as their bodies require breakfast. The world would perish intellectually if it had to depend only on what the periodicals dole out from month to month. As to serial stories, I do not feel the need of them myself but I am told that many of my confrères living in small towns like Hamilton do use them to great advantage. There is, however, this notable difference between the serial of a newspaper and that of a magazine. The magazine runs the serial before it appears in book form, the newspaper, after. I do not believe that magazines are being made a medium of advertising for books. Judging from the number of people who read stories for the first time in the less important newspapers, both books and magazines are enjoying a reputation which they do not live up to."

Harper's Monthly said that in his opinion serials must continue if the educational intent is emphasized as the main thing in the scheme of a magazine or if practical education is aimed at with methodical persistence. Essays on literature, science and art are often published serially to great advantage. The serial began in the first place by a desire to hold readers by continuity of interest.

"That's why most magazines publish them today," interrupted *Public Opinion*. "Did you ever notice how many magazines start a new serial with the December number?"

Harper's Monthly cast a withering glance in the direction of the rude disturber and went on to say that the serial was first used to give unity to a magazine. There was always a great danger that magazines might develop into a mere miscellany without some rope of interest to bind their numbers together. "By all means," he said, "let us have serials. I warn you not to look upon them so contemptuously, for what are we magazines ourselves but a series relating the advance of the world from month to month and illustrating contemporary life? And what is life itself but a tale of progress, a serial story of civilization?"

Another interesting item on the program was a paper by the *American Magazine* on "Relation of advertising to literature." He said that if magazines did not pay more attention to advertising, the first thing they knew there wouldn't be as many pages of advertisements as there are of literature. Then the people would stop reading the magazines. A man doesn't want to dodge around thru almost impenetrable poems and reform articles to find a pair of suspenders or a shaving soap. He hoped the time would soon come when some publisher would be bold enough to publish a magazine devoted entirely to advertising. He was reminded of a poem from which he had often quoted. It was about a poet who sat under a tree with a book, a jug of wine and thou—. That was all he wanted, he said. But today that poet, if he leaned that way

and was fortunate enough to live in a wet state, might own a forest and sit with a hogshead of the best sherry wine, the *Encyclopedia Britannica* on India paper and a whole chorus of thous. What made the difference? Advertising. Then there was another poet, Shakespeare by name, who got nothing out of his poems because he didn't have sense enough to print an advertisement for hoop skirts on the back of them. He deserved to die a poor man. "Soap with your fiction, breakfast food with your literature and automobiles with your social studies."

Variety's the very spice of life
That gives to all its flavour.

The *London Illustrated News* said he was a firm believer in front-cover advertising. A lot of valuable advertising material was wasted by unwise placing. He knew a capital story that might have some bearing on the subject. A certain magazine failed to appear regularly and the editor said it was because the subscribers didn't send in their checks. In desperation he printed a list of the paid-up subscribers. There were 10. But 10 righteous men could not save a magazine, no matter what influence they might have had in Sodom and Gomorrah. The editor could not get any one to advertise to 10 readers and the magazine died a natural death.

Life nudged *Punch* and said he might have that one, as it was obviously an English joke. Any fool American, he said, would have had sense enough to pad his subscription list.

Then up rose *Blackwood's Magazine*. "A hundred years is quite a phenomenal age in the life of a magazine," he said, "but I am approaching my third centennial and my circulation is still good. Oh, yes, I know the *Readers' Guide* thinks I am in my dotage and too old-countryfied and has cut me off his list but, in spite of that, I am still going strong. I wish to give this testimony that I attribute my long life to a total abstinence from alcoholic liquors and narcotics and my popularity to a long list of libel suits successfully eluded. I

got myself talked of and laughed about and sworn at when I was very young and I have been upsetting things from time to time ever since. I have not yet felt the necessity of advertising either a patented dish-washer or a talcum powder. I believe in self-advertising. I recall an old adage which says: 'He that tooteth not his own horn, verily his horn shall not be tooted.'"

Meanwhile *Judge* had been composing an original little poem which he passed around among his friends:

When one is just deciding
To buy a fountain pen,
And in the ads one's seeking
For "Not a blot non-leaking,"
Who wants to be colliding
With "Wives of famous men"
When one is just deciding
To buy a fountain pen.

Good Housekeeping said she didn't suppose a woman's opinion would have much weight—yet, but she wanted to enter a protest against the methods employed by certain newspapers she might be persuaded to name, if only she had a rolling-pin handy—magazines that preach pure food, public service and honest merchandise in their editorials but boost poisoned foods and fraudulent medicines in their advertising sections. She shook her fist defiantly at *Collier's Weekly*.

"Hear! Hear!" cried *The Missionary Review of the World*, "and against those that pretend to be religious and sell advertising space for "tonics" and speculative ventures in land, oil-wells and mines, none of which could secure space in a reputable secular paper." He looked hard at the religious and semi-religious magazines but each of them was so busy looking at his neighbors that not one of them noticed.

The next speaker, *The London Times*, was well known as a fluent, versatile and comparatively veracious man of letters and his subject was a timely one, "Keeping people abreast of the times."

"Some more horntooting," ejaculated *Punch*.

But *The Times* hastened to remark that he did not intend to speak of himself. His object was simply to show the

conditions under which a subject may become a timely one for publication. A timely man's portrait comes out, he said, as unexpectedly and as multitudinously as measles, until one would suppose it was as catching as a contagious disease. When a person of note dies, writers who have their fingers on the editorial pulse flock to libraries that they may improve the golden moments by recounting every detail of his life, death, burial and resurrection. A man may have passed his declining years in the utmost of obscurity but he becomes timely when he dies. When he has been dead 100 years, he becomes timely again but isn't even mentioned when he is 90. He must wait his turn until his centennial comes around. No matter what new light is shed over the life history of any man, it would be unprofessional, to say the least, for any magazine to publish it during the time his memory is lying dormant. It is rather cheerless to reflect that, by consulting a history or a biographical dictionary, one may forsee a certain part of one's magazine reading for several years. Nothing short of a scandal, or perhaps an accident, will make a man a timely subject for a few days during his life and save him from the usual post-mortem reputation. It was a case of a striking exception to Mark Antony's complaint that—

The evil men do lives after them,
The good is oft interred with their bones.

Studio said he was always pleased to see the magazines clothed in artistic covers. He wondered if it would not be a good idea to take up a collection to buy a new suit once in a while for some of the high-salaried reviews. The Women's magazines, he had noted, appeared in a new garb every month. They, at least, believed in keeping abreast of the times.

There was a bobbing to and fro of Easter bonnets and gurgles of delight.

"If anything, a little ahead of time," said the *Delineator* coyly. "I'm always out by the tenth of the preceding month. But then, everybody follows the fashions." That closed the discussion for the *Delineator* always has the last word.

A round table conference on the relative value of books, periodicals and newspapers as a means of educating the people created some excitement and stirred up no little animosity. All agreed that the public must be educated, except, of course, a few people who live in Toronto and are educated, but there was a difference of opinion as to the best means of reaching the masses. One said he was willing to acknowledge the superiority of books as mind feeders. The reading of books required sustained and concentrated attention. He told of a clever man of the past generation who would read nothing written later than Queen Anne because, he said, there was enough good written before that time and, if anything important has happened since, somebody would be sure to tell him. He believed it would be a better world if people read less of modern conditions and more of Plato's Republic. It was all very well to know all about birds and insects and stars but these things could never be a substitute for the idealism of Carlyle, for the categorical imperative of Kant or for the study of the humanities. What readers need more than anything else is a revival of interest in the great poetry. Journalism has enormously increased the number of readers but it has also undermined and is still undermining the power to read. The practice of reading newspapers and magazines has developed a special mental habit, a power of skimming, and this habit, once formed, is applied to all reading. The would-be up-to-date reader finds magazines and reviews more alive than formal literature. What really happens is that the magazine habit is filching from the reader the power of recognizing literary vitality when he sees it.

"But," interrupted another, "the reading of books alone makes people nothing but educated ignoramuses. Before the magazine came and taught people how to read, books could be read and enjoyed by a few and the immortal authors whose books were read shone forever in the literary heavens, remote and unassailable. The magazine is a constant educator

dealing with every question of interest in its best form. Here scientists abandon the dog-Latin vocabulary of their crafts. It is the forum of the politician and the source of much literary entertainment.

"Periodical literature has a noble history. Many of the world's greatest authors wrote at some time in their literary careers for the magazines. In the early days before printing, literature was periodical and was acted at regularly recurrent festivals by itinerant players.

"As to newspapers, they are positively pernicious. Thackeray once said: 'It's little good comes out of writing for newspapers.' Yes, and even to have anything to do with them is to play into Satan's hands and risk demoralization, moral, spiritual and intellectual. They drop vice into our breakfast porridge, perjury into our dinner coffee. They vie with each other to see who can write the most startling story of crime. The newspaper is too transient to do any effective educational work among its readers. It is often hurriedly read and, alas, too often hurriedly written, and much too cursory in its treatment of things to be an influence. It reaches only a local circumscribed area and one in a hundred reads an editorial. Many newspapers will print what no decent man will sign his name to. Every barrier is removed against looseness of statement and unverified information, so a pecuniary premium is put upon unreliability and insinuation. Sensational headlines sell extras and spicy rumour gives the society page its vogue. The newspaper business is nothing more nor less than the buying of white paper and the selling of it soiled at a profit. The more words to the idea the worse the literature and the greater the editor's dividends. To forbid the publication of newspapers would lead ultimately to the closing of prisons and madhouses and be the saving of much inkshed."

There were signs of a great agitation among the scribblers. One of their number rose calmly and deliberately. He said he was at a loss to understand why so much contention had been stirred up. They were all

surely taking themselves far too seriously. It was not for them to say what form of literary expression man should use. All literature was nothing but a mirror of the times and an indication of the progress or retrogression of the human race. But, in justification of the daily press, he felt constrained to say that the newspaper is the greatest force in the world today. Like little drops of water falling incessantly upon the adamant brain of man, it has made a deeper and more lasting impression than any spasmodic and ephemeral deluge of books or magazines.

The *Readers' Guide* said that for some time the magazines had been reflecting what he was loathe to call a decadent age. The last speaker had confirmed his suspicions. He needed only to mention a few of the subjects he had indexed from leading reliable magazines in recent years:

People who have eaten books.
Can we keep sober?
Conscience at the custom house.
Spanked through Europe.
Machine that smokes cigars.
Do women enjoy each other?
New methods in treating red noses.
Honesty in the ministry.

Ten articles are written now on automobiles to one on the once popular theme of predestination. Esperanto and f-o-n-e-t-i-c r-e-f-a-w-r-m have taken the place of the classics and moral reform. He would let his audience draw their own conclusions.

The *Canadian Magazine* said he wanted it to be distinctly understood that he was responsible for none of the articles mentioned. He enjoyed the proud distinction of being the only Canadian magazine recognized by the *Readers' Guide* and his articles were always marked by that dignity and reserve which characterizes the Canadian people.

"Oh," said *The Outlook*, "even the *Canadian Magazine* isn't above running a story now and again with a gasp in it."

The *University Magazine* rose with great deliberation and said that he would

like to know why only one Canadian magazine was indexed in *The Readers' Guide*. He could mention a few other Canadian publications that might have a more salutary effect upon the American people. He had noted, too, in a recent number of the *Ontario Library Review* a list of 10 Canadian, 20 British and 20 American publications, exclusive of newspapers, of course, that 17 of the most reputable librarians of the Province had compositely listed as the most desirable for a Canadian library. He had noticed several serious omissions, among others, himself, but he wanted to say that on the whole he thought the judgment of the 17 librarians about as good as could be expected of them. He was afraid the American magazines were displacing Canadian and British in Ontario libraries. He knew that in Kitchener—

At the mention of that name, the newspapers who, for some reason, had been nodding perceptibly, started up, grasped their pencils and began the forearm motion in anticipation of news of a riot or, at least, the dismissal of some official. But the news was only library "dope" and, as such, of course, quite disappointing.

"Yes," said the *University Magazine*, "I have it on the best of authority that the Kitchener library subscribes to more American magazines than British and Canadian combined."

This tragic announcement evoked expressions of surprise and disapproval. The further intimation that this sad state of affairs prevailed in many Canadian libraries provoked much heated discussion.

"It's all the *Readers' Guide's* fault," said one.

"And yet you must have *The Readers' Guide* to be up-to-date," said another.

"Yes," added a third, "and then you must buy American magazines in order to get your money's worth out of the *Readers' Guide*. It indexes only one Canadian and three British magazines."

At this juncture all the Canadian magazines jumped to their feet. They drew up, move and seconded a motion that somebody or another publish a Canadian

readers' guide, that in it all the Canadian magazines, most of the British and one solitary American magazine be indexed and that the expense in connection with its publication be met by a tax apportioned as follows:

Librarians using the index habitually or oftener, pay so much.

Those using it only, say, twice a week, pay so much more.

Those not using it at all, pay the balance.

The motion was carried without a dissenting voice, all the magazines recognizing the seriousness of the question and exercising their franchise.

Then the *Readers' Guide* stood up and this is what he said: "When I took this chair, I inflicted no chairman's speech upon you but I claim the right to say a few words now in my own defense. After 16 years of friendly coöperation with Canadian librarians, I am to be ousted by a rival. Sixteen years and more and never a day of it but I found snatches of poetry to punctuate dull essays, lent whole paragraphs to give points to pointless debates, suggested stories for after-dinner speeches and gave brilliant ideas to furnish empty brains. Yet never

in all that time have I found any measure of appreciation of myself or of the magazines I indexed. An ungrateful lot I have found these Canadians, reaping where they have not sowed and gathering where they have not strawed. Few, if any, confess to having consulted me. Once I went to a great deal of trouble to find material for a Canadian librarian who had to write a paper on something she didn't know anything at all about. She stole her whole dissertation from my magazine and passed it off as her own."

The *Readers' Guide* did not stop but that was all the Old Librarian heard for suddenly he was startled by a shrill, female voice haranguing an unusually intelligent and cultured audience on "The place and use of newspapers and periodicals in our public libraries in towns." The Old Librarian listened a while, then leaned over to his neighbor and whispered: "That's not one bit original. I heard every other sentence of that paper when I was attending a convention of magazines and newspapers a little while ago."

And yet some people say that periodical literature has no place and use in public libraries in towns.

A Library Report in a Speech*

Ida F. Wright, librarian, Public library, Evanston Ill.

To be invited to a party is one of the joys of childhood, but no less so when we grow up. Today we of the staff of workers who form the intermediary link between the book and the reader are indeed happy to be here, and appreciate your very great hospitality. We are happy also that you have permitted us to bring with us some of the most recent additions to the 75,000 volumes which embrace our household.

We are frequently asked "Are these

latest additions worthy of a place alongside of the seers of the past?" We believe that they are, but instead of being grouped under *belles lettres*, classical and miscellany, as formerly, they fall more readily into the classification which PUBLIC LIBRARIES tells us the girls in the Horace Mann school of New York City have originated. "Ice-cream tales" is the phrase they use for some of those best-sellers which, like ice-cream, are good while they last but afterwards leave a thin, flat taste. "Green vegetables" is a term of especial endearment among them, for they use it in contrast to another class of books which they call "canned goods".

*Given before the Evanston woman's club at its annual Library day, December 5, 1922, when a display of 1922 books was made.

Of the 1922 output of fiction no one will deny but that there is a superabundance of ice-cream tales. However, there are a number of really "green vegetables." Do you recall a more delightfully fanciful tale than "Martin Pippin and the apple orchard" by Miss Farjeon, the granddaughter of Joseph Jefferson; one more highly artistic in form than "Abbe Pierre;" or greener than "Mr Prohack" or "One of ours?"

In biographies, to link up with the outstanding ones of the past, we have this year the Life and letters of Walter H. Page, those of Franklin K. Lane, and of William De Morgan and his wife.

Travel! Yes, travel and outdoor books are indeed of the green vegetable class, not only in their color illustrations but in the crispness of their telling.

Essays and letters used to be our primest green vegetables, but I fear that we must acknowledge that most of the recent ones have a bit of the canned goods flavor. Black's "The Latest things and other things," Burrough's "The Last harvest," Canby's "Definitions" are good, but they lack the flavor of real Lamb.

Altho I am quite sure the Horace Mann girls do not look with approbation on the canned goods class, canned goods themselves come in most conveniently when the unexpected guest arrives—so with a certain class of books—they contain, stored up ready for use at any time, much information which if used will save time and often embarrassment. Our practical books have canned, ready for you to open, information on nutrition, how to furnish an apartment, write a letter, and all of the other 57 varieties.

Even the exterior of books these days exhale the delightful freshness of green vegetables, so instead of speaking further about them, we invite you at the close of the luncheon and during the reception hour to enjoy with us these, the newest members of

our household. At each of the tables you will find one of our staff, who will be glad to introduce the books to you.

With each exhibit you will find a list of the books shown, a copy of which you may take with you. The selection of these volumes is in no way final. It does not pretend to be a list of the best books. It is merely representative of some of the delightful volumes upon many subjects produced this year. We hope that you will enjoy the thrill of their newness, with us, and if you are still in search of just the right gift for Christmas, maybe these volumes will afford some suggestions.

The president of the day has specially requested that I speak briefly about the work of our local public library.

Sir Hall Caine has said "Altho I should hesitate to say that a city without a library is a city without a soul, I should not fear to say that it is a city with a soul that is starved."

It is interesting therefore to note just what provisions Evanston has, during its life time as a village and city, made to prevent its soul from being starved. About 49 years ago, in fact, practically as soon as the state law went into effect, the citizens of our village changed the existing subscription library into a free public library.

Within that time, 95,910v. have been made available for the use of its people. Subtracting those worn out, there is now a net collection of over 75,000v.

In business these days, it is customary to apply the measuring stick to the work of an institution. By applying the library measuring rod to the work of our local institution we find that whereas the average for cities of this size is a provision of *one* book for each inhabitant, Evanston has almost *two* for each man, woman and child who resides here. The circulation statistics show that this year over 250,000 volumes have been drawn from the library for use in the homes. Were a record kept of the reference use of the books at the Main

building, the South branch, the stations, and in the class rooms, the total would show that the use of library books in Evanston averages two books per month per inhabitant.

As to the enrollment of card holders, the measuring stick shows the average in cities of this size to be about 35% of the population. Evanston has 42%. No other one provision of the city is used by so large a proportion of its population as is the library, with the exception of the water and street service.

Again applying our measuring stick to the coöperation of the public schools and the public library, we find that in no other city in the state have these two educational institutions become so interlinked. Realizing that just as important as the teaching of the mechanics of reading is guidance in what is read, the Library and the School Board of District 75, a year ago, joined hands in employing on a 50-50 basis a person specially trained in the psychology of reading for children, as well as in library and educational methods.

The National Education Association and the American Library Association have endorsed as a minimum standard that there be at least one full-time school librarian for an enrollment of 1,000 elementary and high school pupils. As you see, only a tiny step has been taken as yet toward this goal, but at least we have begun to climb.

As to appropriation for library purposes, the American Library Association measuring stick indicates \$1 per capita as the very minimum for anything like reasonable library service for a community. This minimum goal has never been reached in Evanston; however, we hope that the new rate next year will bring us almost that amount. Even this new rate, 1.8 mills on the dollar of assessed valuation, looks small when written out. As the little boy said the other day after seeing on the blackboard this rate written out \$.0018, "Why! the library does not

have very much money to do its work with, does it?"

Knowing as you all do the excessive costs of maintaining a household now as compared with 10 years ago, you can well realize that great credit is due to the vigilance of a board of directors who have so administered an institution that, notwithstanding a doubling in every expense of maintenance, it has still been able to double its service with less than a third increase in appropriation. Could I show you a map of the location of our various distributing agencies, it would show that we now have a branch library in South Evanston, stations in 3 schools, and class room libraries in some of the rooms of each of 14 schools. It is, however, not the work which can be checked up by a measuring stick which indicates the real value of an institution to a community but the service which it renders in making all round citizens, those intangible things which, like all things of the soul can be measured only by life itself.

Ever since the invention of printing the service of books has been cumulating until now, as never before they form an integral part of education, business, recreation. The modern laboratory methods of teaching all subjects demand books just as much as the chemical laboratory demands its test tube. Beginning with the picture book and right on thru life to the end, books have become necessities. Therefore libraries, the medium thru which the use of books may be had free of charge, have become civic necessities.

It is no longer considered the sole function of a library to serve only those who have sufficient initiative to come to it but the present gospel for librarians teaches that our commodity which embraces the best thought of all the ages should be made known to those whose circumstances in life have not brought them into contact with these treasure troves.

When we consider the recent statement made by the United States bureau of education, that, taking the year

as a whole, the entire 365 days, the average amount of time that children spend in school is only $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours per day, and when we also consider that the average working day is much shorter than formerly, we realize that the responsibility that rests upon every institution which has inately within it the possibilities of providing clean and profitable recreation is very grave.

The responsibility also for providing in libraries trained workers who can guide the adult along the line of his post-school education is one of the most urgent at the present time.

The business as well as the cultured world is preaching that no man is educated who stops studying when he leaves school.

We have spoken of the importance of starting the children right. The library is the one public institution which has the privilege of serving humanity thru the entire gamut of life, and being a non-political, a non-religious, and a non-compulsory institution, it draws unto itself people of every type of thinking, and for this very reason, thru the indirect method, has the possibility of providing a large factor in moulding the thought of a community.

If it may seem that Evanston checks up a little higher on the library measuring rod than some other communi-

ties, it is due largely to the fact that we have a citizenry of broad-minded people—people who have a vision of the bigness of a service which makes available to a community the accumulated thought of the world—to a Drama club which each year provides money for books on that subject—to the Chamber of Commerce which sees in a curtailment of library funds a real injury to the welfare of the city, and which heads a city-wide campaign to offset this curtailment—to a Professor Coe who has endowed the finest music collection to be found in any library of the size in the country, to a Board of Education which has made such a splendid start toward much bigger possibilities of united service,—to the hundreds of booklovers who thru their encouragement have helped the library across many bridges—and especially to a Woman's club, which, thru the institution of an annual library day and thru the carrying out of the Children's Book Week project, has done an unprecedented service to the community.

If we have measured up reasonably well to our present library measuring stick, let us not be proud, for the average is unduly low. Communities privileged as Evanston is in its intellectual life should stand far above the average and be the magnet to raise the standards for others.

Wireless—From Somewhere in the Future

C. H. C., special correspondent.

This is a queer place for a man who has been living in the present. Such a bookish atmosphere envelopes the whole city. As I wait at the aerodrome station for a Zep I notice men and women reading all about me. I look for the familiar *Saturday Evening Post* and the *Red Book* but instead I see copies of the *Atlantic Monthly*, the *Yale Review*, *Science*, *International Studio*, and *Life*. I am struck, too, with the fact that many people are reading books—

small editions which easily could be placed in one's pocket. In walking about the station I take note of the advertisements—a subject in which I have long been interested. I see that the most prominent sign of all is one advertising the public library. It is extremely attractive—advertising had evidently become an art in itself. I look in vain for advertisements of patent medicines, hair tonics, and digested foods, and find instead those of art galleries, operas, lectures, and night schools. All of this interested me tremendously for it was very different from what I had been accustomed to.

As I entered the Zep I had an opportunity to still further indulge my curiosity. People were lounging about, some of them reading, others talking in small groups. There was that easy democracy in the groups that I have often found among boys on school ground. One group was discussing the architecture of a new department store—evidently a building with much to commend it. The interest and information displayed was surprising for the men were plainly not of the professional class. There was another group talking about a philharmonic concert of the night previous and one group of women conversing on a new trade school, the plan of its administration having been brought from South Africa. But what was still more interesting to me were the people reading, lost completely to the fact that we were soaring high above the city. There sat a man with a copy of *Midsummer Night's Dream*. He had a sensitive Jewish cast of countenance and it was interesting to see his face change as Shakespeare played upon his sensibilities. I was attracted by a young woman who was reading a copy of *Prometheus bound*. I wondered whether it was the wonderful translation by Mrs Browning. A boy with his foot curled up under him on his chair was chuckling over Tom's and Huck's escapades. I was puzzled at what I saw. I remembered the sign I had seen advertising the public library. It was a clue. Tomorrow I promised myself I would investigate.

On the next day, I visited the public library and talked with the librarian. It was shortly after the library opened in the morning and already there were crowds of people returning and taking out books. The charging and discharging were done at a rapid rate by ingenious-looking machines. The main reading room was immense and there were alcoves adjoining for quiet study.

I looked about for the card catalog but could see none. In answer to my inquiry, the librarian said that card catalogs had long been in the discard. He showed me a printed catalog in one alphabet except for the accessions of the

current year which were in a supplementary volume. The librarian remarked that catalogs were printed coöperatively for libraries by the A. L. A. Publishing Board. I examined the catalog and found the entries were annotated—not necessarily with a descriptive note but at times with a two or three-line pungent criticism.

I asked the librarian regarding departments. He said there were two, adult and juvenile. "What about ordering and cataloging?" He replied that the ordering was done thru the A. L. A. Central Purchasing department. "It has been many years since my library has dealt with publishers. The central purchasing department knows so well what we need and what funds we have that in most cases we do not have to order individual titles. New books appear on our shelves at the same time that booksellers put them on sale. There is, of course, no cataloging to be done as that is all carried on coöperatively by a central cataloging bureau."

I inquired about reference, art, technology, and other departments with which I had been familiar.

"Libraries are not divided into departments in that way," he said. "Of course we have librarians who have specialized along certain lines but we try to keep them from separate rooms as we want them to keep alive to the work of the library as a whole. The training for librarianship is today very thoro. The profession requires a broad cultural foundation before the specialization which comes in the later years of their training. Library schools in the preparation which they require for entrance have in a way set a standard for high schools and colleges."

Assistants were about the room helping the public in selecting books. Evidently anyone who wished for such assistance could have it. I took the opportunity of looking over the shelves. Where were Harold Bell Wright, Gene Stratton Porter, and other best sellers of my own day? It occurred to me that they might all be in circulation but when I asked one of the assistants she was not

familiar with them. She showed me a list of 100 titles which had had the greatest popularity during the past three months. I was sure then that I was living in the future for I noted on the list such titles as *The Portrait of a Lady*, *The Mysterious Stranger*, *The Research Magnificent*, a translation of the *Antigone* and *Ruskin's Seven Lamps of Agriculture*. I was amazed, these the most popular titles, these the books having the greatest circulation? I took my question to the librarian. What did it all mean? Had the world become deadly serious?

"Not at all," he said. "No author is more popular than Mark Twain. It is all in a change of relative values. It has come to a point where a man acquires a library before he does an automobile." He spoke at some length. "We live in an aristocracy of brains. There are rich men and poor men. Who cares? The writer, the poet, receives honor in his own country and afar. This change in values has been brought about by publicity, by continually, increasingly, everlastingly educating people to good literature. It has taken many years to do it, of

course. During this time the A. L. A. has maintained a central publicity bureau. Books and libraries have been advertised year in and year out in a wonderful way. The best literary and artistic talent of the country has given of itself freely to teach the public that books can give to life a wonderful enrichment. In this city, as in every American city, you will find branch libraries in all districts. We have the complete coöperation of the schools. Every teacher works hand in hand with the children's librarian for whatever pedagogical methods she may use; she knows books and gives the love of books to her pupils. It has been proved that people as a whole have the capacity for the enjoyment of the best in literature, in art. Everybody reads, everybody reads good books. It has become the habit of the nation. Such was the passion of the Greeks for beauty and we have cultivated it here so that it has become a veritable passion in this American democracy."

The enthusiasm of the librarian was splendid. How glad I was to be living in the future.

In the Letter Box

To Catalogers

A round-table for public library catalogers has been arranged for the Hot Springs conference. If you are planning to be there, will you please send me your name and the questions or topics you would like to have discussed? It is hoped to make the discussions really helpful and practical, and those topics will be considered first which receive the largest number of requests.

GRACE HILL,
Chairman.

Public library.
Kansas City, Mo.

How Did He Find It Out?

Editor, PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

The librarian of a small Colorado library and one of her trustees recently had a difference of opinion regarding

book selection for the library. Not knowing the usual and best means of getting assistance in library problems, the trustee wrote to the presidents of several large universities in regard to this library matter. Among the replies received was one from the president of a great eastern university—a man who has been a national figure for many years. Much could be said regarding his reply to the library trustee, but instead of doing so I am sending a copy of it which speaks for itself:

I am much interested in the question put in yours of the 5th, since its wise answer would have much to do with the improvement of public intelligence and the instruction of public opinion in this country.

I do not know your librarian, but the advice which you quote him as giving is, in my judgment, quite preposterous, although I recognize it as the kind of advice which librarians are very apt to give. It would be

much better not to have the library used at all than to have it used in the reading of worthless printed stuff, which really weakens both the intelligence and the character.

There are individuals and associations which issue courses of reading, but most of these are frankly propagandist in character. The New York state library at Albany issues each year a pamphlet containing a list of the books published during the preceding twelve months which it thinks most desirable for a small library to purchase. I look over their recommendations without much enthusiasm and should disagree with not a few of them, but they are made by responsible people and carry, therefore, more or less weight.

I have often thought that this university, which is national in its influence, ought to provide lists of this sort on the authority of its body of scholars, but we have never yet gotten to the point of doing so. I am greatly interested in your question and wish I could send you a more satisfactory reply.

I fancy you feel as I do regarding such a communication.

Very truly yours,
CHALMERS HADLEY,
Librarian.

Denver, Colorado.
March 12, 1923.

Food for Thought

The New Statesman, October 7, quoted in *Living Age*, November 18, under the caption, "Are lectures worth while?" said:

The substance of the majority of the lectures which are given could be got by the student far better and in far less time from books. W. D. J.

Approval

Editor, PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

I should like to endorse, most heartily, Miss Olcott's discerning criticism of Van Loon's *Story of Mankind*. Some time ago we placed the book on the adult shelves because of the many comments received from teachers and parents on its glaring inaccuracies. It is unfortunate that the Newberry medal should have been bestowed on a work so poorly fitted to stand the searchlight of publicity.

Some of the children's librarians are now praising in extravagant terms, Sandburg's "Rootabaga Stories." The book is original, but its humor did not

appeal to us, and it was with hesitation that we finally bought a copy. The result in this especial community has justified our doubt. The children do not care for it in the least, though they are still enthusiastic over Dr Dolittle. Not one, but several parents have returned the book with the comment that its fun is forced and unrefined. There is certainly room for more than one opinion on this publication.

Very truly,
EDNA A. BROWN,
Librarian.

Memorial Hall library,
Andover, Mass.

Dear PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

Miss Olcott's letter in March PUBLIC LIBRARIES on Van Loon's *Story of mankind* is a great comfort to me. I felt very lonely last summer when it seemed that I was the only one who disapproved of the book. It is regrettable that 163 votes should have given the book such prominence and I think it discredited the judgment of children's librarians.

What books are to be voted on this year, and how are the choices to be recorded?

MRS JOSEPH A. THOMPSON,
University extension instructor
in Literature for children.
Chickasha, Okla.
March 21, 1923

How Do They Do It?

Dear Editor:

This is the second letter we have had from people who call themselves librarians and speak of the "duo decimal" system. I thought you would enjoy the extract.

"I am a graduate of University of — and have had some experience in library work in schools and have shelved according to duo decimal system and card indexed a new library in small town, in fact, helped start the library and instruct the girl to run it."

How do you suppose they run libraries and classify books?

CORNELIA MARVIN,
Oregon state library.

Books Wanted

W. W. Bishop, librarian, University of Michigan, chairman of the Committee on library coöperation with other countries, asks the A. L. A. to appeal to American libraries to solicit books from the public and to send books from their own duplicate collections for use in the American library in Paris to meet the requests for American publications which come from other countries of Europe.

Mr Bishop's appeal is supported by a letter from W. Dawson Johnston, librarian of the American library in Paris, and European representative of the A. L. A., and by an appeal from Col Robert E. Olds, formerly director of the Red Cross in Europe, now in New York in the interest of the American library in Paris.

The present status of foreign exchange makes purchase of American publications by the countries which need them most, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Czecho-Slovakia, Poland, the Baltic states, the Balkans and Russia, practically impossible. Mr Bishop feels that if Europeans are to be kept in touch with what America is doing, their libraries must be provided with American books for a time, at least, free of charge.

Almost any kind of books about America of comparatively recent date and in good condition will be acceptable. When the collection has been made (and it is hoped that this will all be done before May 1) notice should be sent to A. L. A. Headquarters, 78 East Washington Street, Chicago. Shipping instructions will be sent upon receipt of the number of books available.

Of Good Report

Editor, PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

I want to tell you how much I have enjoyed the March number of PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

The article by Miss Rena Reese, "Relations of actual work to the library

school," seems to me a very sensible exposition of the relationship of training class work to library school work. I hope that her plea for some method of crediting training class and apprentice work—and even actual experience—toward the library school course may sometime be realized. This might be satisfactorily accomplished by examination or by some form of test at the library school.

Doubtless, the course on a certain subject in the library school is usually broader and more intensive than the course in a training class. It would probably require much wider reading and examination of methods of different libraries. Perhaps this collateral reading and study might be carried out by the student without her being forced to go thru all the details of class work in a subject with which she is entirely familiar. Going over and over details of routine work is a waste of time for those who have actually been *doing* the work perhaps for two or three years.

I was also interested in Mr Heffelfinger's article on "Library revenue," but I am sorry to see him advocating lower rate of income than that which the A. L. A. has adopted as a minimum standard. Of course at the present time there are many libraries doing good work on 65 to 75 cents per capita; but judging from our own experience, it is done at a severe cost of over work and loss of health in the staff itself in the effort to do "satisfactory" work on an inadequate budget.

These are only two of the several articles in this issue which we have found interesting and profitable even if we do not agree with some of the opinions expressed.

Yours very truly,

JENNIE THORNBURG JENNINGS,
Assistant-librarian.

Public library,
St. Paul, Minn.

One Book, Two Titles

Editor, PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

Perhaps other librarians will be glad to know that Pettigrew's Imperial Washington, published by Kerr, Chicago, 1922, is the same book as his Triumphant Plutocracy, Academy Press, New York, 1922, under a new title.

GRACE WORMER,
Acting librarian.

State University of Iowa.

An Acrostic?

It would be interesting to know how many readers of A Critical Fable have discovered that the title-page is in rhyme. James Russell Lowell used to say that the publisher of his Fable for Critics, the late G. P. Putnam, never discovered that his title-page was rhymed. Houghton Mifflin Company know all about the rhyming title-page in the new "Fable," but do they know everything about it? It seems that a correspondent has lately written to them stating that this same title-page contains the author's name embedded in an acrostic or cipher. The publishers profess themselves unable to discover anything of the sort, and announce that they will be very glad to receive any elucidations that may be sent to them. These, and the various guesses as to authorship, will be published later on.

More Than That

In an account of a gift to the New York public library in the March PUBLIC LIBRARIES, the word *owns* is used instead of the word, *owned*, in referring to the material taken over at the time of the consolidation of the Astor-Lenox-Tilden properties. Of course the consolidation corporation now owns very much more than is made to appear in that statement—over half a million volumes and pamphlets are now on the shelves of the New York public library.

Good Manners an Asset in Public Work

An uncivil employe is a liability to any organization, and more especially one engaged in a direct service to the public. He makes trouble for himself, discomfort for patrons, embarrassment for his employers.

His incivility may be born of something within himself, or it may arise from the thoughtlessness of one who expects from another a measure of consideration which he is not himself willing to give.

However instances of incivility arise, they are an annoyance and a nuisance, causing endless irritation and trouble, and having little excuse for existence.

Controversies which arise between patrons and employes usually come from some misunderstanding of rules and regulations.

Not all cases of incivility are of this character, however. Occasionally those in the employ of the public forget themselves and are rude and arrogant where they should be civil and tolerant. Such cases should be promptly dealt with when they are brought to the management's attention.

In all courses of instruction to those who are to serve the public there is no lesson upon which greater emphasis should be placed than the importance of unfailing courtesy. A very small degree of patience and tolerance on the part of the public will help mightily in making these teachings effective.—*Adapted.*

Prizes Offered

The Pioneer Writers Guild of America, 9 Charles St., New York City, will award prizes amounting to \$600 to writers and artists whose work has never been published. The award will be divided as follows: Four prizes of \$150 each for the best short story, poem, play and cartoon. This contest closes June 30, 1923. For rules, address the Guild.

Monthly—Except August
and September.

Public Libraries

M. E. Ahern, Editor

6 No. Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

Subscription - - - - -	\$3 a year	Current single number - - - -	35 cents
Five copies to one library - - - -	\$12 a year	Foreign Subscriptions - - - -	\$3.50 a year

By the rules of the banks of Chicago, an exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under.
In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or postoffice money orders should be sent.

When a change of address is ordered, both the new and the old address must be given. The notice should be sent two weeks before the change is to take effect.

If a subscriber wishes his copy of the magazine discontinued at the expiration of his subscription, notice to that effect should be sent. Otherwise it is assumed that a continuance of the subscription is desired.

Copies failing to reach subscribers, through loss in the mails, will be duplicated without charge if request to do so is received within 30 days after publication. Later than that duplicate copies can be supplied only at market prices.

Contributions for current numbers of PUBLIC LIBRARIES should be in hand by the fifteenth of the month previous to the appearance of the magazine. Advertisements for which proof is not required can be accepted as late as the twenty-second of the previous month.

Courage of Convictions

MATERIAL appearing in PUBLIC LIBRARIES occasionally has brought out a curious phase of moral courage. Time and again, commendation of discussions of public questions has been offered, but often with the remark, "This is personal and not for publication."

Of course, one cannot altogether control one's impressions concerning events and people and it is most commendable that one should be chary of criticism, remembering that this is easy while "art is difficult." But at the same time, when one is profiting or losing by conditions, there seems to be a little professional obligation to take one's stand for or against measures and situations which are bound to affect not only one's own standing but the entire profession.

And so the writer would urge that more publicity be given to the opinions which many persons hold as to proceedings within professional lines, the actions of those in authority, or the attitude of those in a position to affect results.

In a democratic government no one should yield his right of expressing an opinion. If this opinion is backed up by numbers, it ought to prevail. If the majority agrees with what is promulgated, then the minority, as good citizens and good members of the community, ought to acquiesce in what is proposed until such time as the opinion of the majority decides otherwise.

Another phase of the matter is presented by the protest of one charged with the responsibility, of no small degree, in the work of dispensing good reading matter for children. She expressed the opinion that the manner of choosing a distinguished writer of a book for children and the time for the task, this year especially, are not reasonable, yet "the constituted authorities of the A. L. A. having decided otherwise, nothing remains to be done." Nevertheless, a protest on the side thus made is hardly effective. Moreover, it might be that the A. L. A. authorities, having received opinions from only one side of the question, think they are

acting in consonance with the opinion of those most concerned.

Frankly, PUBLIC LIBRARIES agrees with the opinion expressed by the person referred to when it is stated that it is hardly possible, under all circumstances which ought to be considered in the situation, to select fairly the most distinguished volume for children published within the year, such decision being arrived at by popular vote of the members of the Children's librarians' section.

Does a popular vote really express distinction? Is it possible to arrive at a just conclusion with regard to the distinction of a literary product within the time allotted? Van Loon's *The Story of mankind* was voted the most distinguished work of the year for

children and constantly since has evidence been furnished that would somewhat detract from the claim of this book as the most distinguished work. Examples might be multiplied if time and space permitted, but each one will say, in his own relation to the subject, that there is a definite duty, so long as one is a member of the household, to contribute to the sum total of opinion by at least speaking out at the proper time and place in regard to matters under discussion. This, perhaps, will give courage to others who are halting or it may give opportunity to those who are better informed to set straight mistaken notions which are held.

In the multitude of counselors, there is wisdom.

A Good Will Delegate from the Library.

IT would be fitting, since there has been so much activity and interest manifested in library affairs in France, that in this delegation of selected persons which the American committee for Devastated France sends over in the name of the Good Will delegation, librarians thruout the country should rally to the support of Miss Maria V. Leavitt who has been nominated by the Library club of New York City.

Practically speaking, librarians are fewer in number than other classes of persons selected but there is no reason, now that a librarian has been nominated to join the Good Will delegation, that librarians over the country should not express their pleasure in making it possible for a librarian to join the company which will have six weeks in France as guests of the

American committee for Devastated France, next summer.

The reports concerning Miss Leavitt's nomination are most gratifying. *The Page*, in speaking of her nomination, says:

Miss Craigin was unable to get farther than the mention of Miss Leavitt's name, as the meeting broke into enthusiastic applause, indicative of the popularity of the nomination and the affection with which Miss Leavitt is regarded.

If New York librarians are so unanimous and enthusiastic over one of their number as to "let themselves go" like that, surely this may be taken as *prima facie* evidence that other librarians not having the advantage of Miss Leavitt's acquaintance, may join in the effort to send her across. Miss Leavitt will need 60,000 votes. These will cost 10 cents each. Surely there is enough professional interest in all grades

among library ranks to make this possible.

The decision will be made in May and PUBLIC LIBRARIES urges that all librarians, of high and low degree, make such contributions to this movement as will show solidarity of inter-

est when a national proposal for one of the craft is made.

Send in a check for as many dimes as possible to Miss Eleanor H. Frick, chairman, Good Will Election committee, Public library, New York City.

Salaries in Government Library Service

A bit of legislative action which was carried thru to completion by the last Congress was the law providing for the re-classification of those in government service. Thanks to the indefatigable efforts of Senator Sterling, the bill was passed by the Senate and House concurring and signed by President Harding, on March 4.

It is hoped that librarians, as far as possible and proper, will stand ready to assist those charged with the duty of inaugurating the new classification and, since so much is promised in its name for the betterment of the remuneration of those in library work in the Capitol, that a fair trial will be

given to all the provisions of the bill, to the end that there may be betterment in the situation and that the need for further revision or amendment may be made so clear, this first step having been accomplished, it will be easier to meet and merit further provision which may seem right and necessary.

The thanks of the library profession are due to Senator Sterling for his efforts in behalf of librarians, his courtesy and kindness in listening to their appeal and for the special interest he gave to their part of the measure when he proposed it.

School Library Supervisor for Illinois

A copy of House bill No. 275, Illinois Assembly, has been received. This bill was introduced by Representative J. W. Rausch (District 20). The bill is entitled "An Act creating the office of supervisor of public and high-school libraries, defining the duties thereof and fixing the salary of said office."

The substance of the bill is as follows:

The office of supervisor of public and high-school libraries is hereby created. The supervisor shall be appointed by the superintendent of public instruction without reference to the provisions of any civil service law which now is, or hereafter may be, in force in this state. Such supervisor must have professional li-

brary training and recognized experience in library work, and shall receive a salary not exceeding \$5000 per year.

The supervisor shall make studies and investigations relating to library service in the public, elementary, secondary and normal schools of the state. He shall act in a supervisory capacity to public schools desiring advice on all matters relating to the formation of libraries, selection of books and management of libraries, shall prepare lists of books for public school libraries and outline courses of instruction in the selection and use of books and libraries for pupils, teachers, and teachers' training classes. He shall make a report of the work of his office, on or before the 30th of June, annually, to the superintendent of public instruction and shall make constructive suggestions and recommendations based upon his studies and investigations relating to the equalization of the educational opportunities through improvement and standardization of the public school libraries of the state.

The Illinois library association, under the direction of a committee of which Miss Martha Wilson, librarian, Lincoln library, Springfield, Illinois, was chairman, (no longer a member of the committee) endorsed a resolution at its meeting last Fall to provide for a supervisor of school libraries in the Department of public instruction. This idea was taken from the work as it is presented in Minnesota where library extension work for the state is in the State department of public instruction, with a full staff charged with the supervision of library extension for the whole state.

This situation does not exist in Illinois for, while the state superintendent of Public instruction in Illinois is a member of the Board of trustees of the State library, there is no further connection between the department of library work for the state and that office. Furthermore, in Illinois, there is a division in the State librarian's office for the extension of library service from which may be obtained "advice on all matters relating to the formation" or administration of all kinds of libraries, including school libraries.

It has become a recognized axiom that the knowledge of the use of books is one of the most important things that a school can teach, if indeed, it is not the most important. There are other important things in the school curriculum necessary in the processes of education and all of them should, and very likely do, receive attention from those charged with the supervision and administration of local schools. If the use of books or library service has not received the attention it deserves in the schools of Illinois, the proper way, it would seem, to remedy the defect is to awaken those charged with the supervision of schools locally, to the value to their students of this knowledge of books.

It has become a recognized fact in political science that the only hope for betterment is in education concerning

the thing to be done rather than to attempt to force it by law. The school superintendents and school principals, therefore, when once they recognize the value of the use of books as a part of the education of their pupils, will give it the attention and development it should have.

That there is not sufficient attention given to instruction in the use of books as tools as well as a cultivation of the love of books as friends in the schools all over the country, is true. Some states have recognized this and are making provision in the schools to remedy this condition. It would seem, therefore, the better part of wisdom for the schools of Illinois to recognize this need and prepare to meet it from their own outlook and feelings rather than for a kindred, tho separate organization to ask the legislature to provide by law that this supervision and the development shall be undertaken by a state office which makes no such provision for any other subject in the curriculum.

If there is not sufficient means in the State department of libraries to give special attention to the schools, if they wish it, the most reasonable way would be to make better provision in the department of libraries rather than to create a library division in the State department of education.

The bill is indefinite in some of its language. For instance, the "office of supervisor of public and high school libraries" does not express the notion which was in the minds of those who voted approval of the resolution at the meeting of the Illinois library association.

There are already too many laws relating to library service in Illinois and there does not seem to be a need for this new legislation and certainly not in its present form.

Later: Word comes from Mrs G. C. Ashman, Peoria, chairman of the subcommittee in charge of the bill, that the change in the bill was made without her knowledge and it is her intention to attempt to have the bill restored to its original form.

Death's Toll

William T. Peoples, since 1873 librarian of the Mercantile library, New York City, died, March 9.

Mr Peoples, in the early days, was one of the earnest, active members of the A. L. A. and the records of its proceedings for more than 30 years will show the great interest he took in library extension, and the valuable service he gave in Council, committee and convention, in strengthening the fiber of its growth and widening the influence of the use of books. He was an active member of the New York library club, the New York State library association, the American library institute, and rendered good service in all of these, having served as president and member of important committees.

Mr Peoples had been in ill health for perhaps a dozen years but in the days of his activity, he was one of the most respected and popular men in his circle, always a gentleman, courteous in the manner of the old school gentleman, kindly and sympathetic. In 1916, he was named librarian emeritus and his real activity decreased from that time. He was born, January 1, 1843.

The Usual Dilemma

A new library building has been opened in Elmira, N. Y., to house the library which has grown up as an outgrowth of the Steele memorial library, opened in 1921. There is some uncertainty in the minds of those charged with the conduct of library affairs as to what is the proper name to give to the library. The first public library was founded by Mrs Esther B. Steele as a memorial to her husband, the late Dr Joel D. Steele. Later a gift from Andrew Carnegie furnished the means for the building which has just been opened, hence the dilemma.

The knot might be cut by calling the new library the Elmira public library and commemorating the generous donors by bronze tablets somewhere in the building.

Hugh Walpole

An appraisal

Of all the novels by living authors that I have read I find Hugh Walpole's *Fortitude* the most inspiring. I shall never forget its closing scene, where the hero, who has lost all that is dearest to him, stands against the rain on the Cornish height with a sense of exalted hope and with full realization that "it is not life that matters but the courage you bring to it." Maugham makes rain degrading, but Walpole, in *Fortitude* and in the opening page of *The Cathedral*, makes it exalting. Walpole like Conrad, of whom he has written so sympathetically, loves the sea, and at times seems to sound Wagner's mighty music for us.

Walpole is a free soul who dares soar after Beauty, while too many of his contemporaries explore the mud. He dares to show emotion, and to scorn the base, yet tempers his scorn with compassion. In *A Prelude to Adventure*, Dune dares to strike down the unclean beast, tho he commits murder in men's eyes, Mr Perlin bravely attacks the powerful English schools, *The Duchess of Wrex* makes her brave lone fight for the best in "the fine old name of gentleman."

Among novelists Walpole is a Bayard "without fear and without reproach." One comes from a play by Shakespeare, Ibsen or Shaw or rises from a novel by Thackeray or Walpole refreshed and invigorated by contact with a clean-hearted, great-souled gentleman.

ROLAND HOLT.

February 23, 1923.

The *News-Bulletin* of the Bureau of vocational information for March 15 contains a very suggestive and helpful discussion of women in the real estate field. One feels like advising librarians outside of the great cities to secure this for a reference sheet for young women considering a life vocation; but one is deterred lest more librarians should leave library service for a more lucrative field.

What the Business Man Reads

We hear much these days of "books for the tired business man." Is there such a class of books? Or is "the tired business man" a myth as one of Abe Martin's women characters firmly believes—a bit of propaganda started by him around home for his protection? At any rate the business man must be weary of hearing how weary he is.

So he seeks the public library for diversion. What shall he read after hours? Travel, history and biography—books of facts—appeal most to the maculine business mind. Poetry and philosophy he takes with moderation. Fiction of mystery and adventure rather than emotion or sentiment holds his attention, while a psychological novel often finds favor with him. An extreme example of his taste in fiction is evidenced by a boy's remark at the loan desk: "Gimme a book without no wimmen in it!"

The chief service of a book of diversion to the business man is that it supplements what he does not have in his life. The man whose work takes him to the woods and lonely places wants to read about the city and folks. The man who works with people all day "takes to the woods" in his books and craves quiet and solitude.

A down town book salesman tells us that on the completion of a recent novel, Booth Tarkington entered the bookshop and asked for a good book to read. "A good novel, sir?" asked the salesman. "No," replied Mr Tarkington in no uncertain terms, "anything but that!"

Books become the business man's balance wheel. A man who is generally known as "all business" and whose greeting to his friends at the theatre, in society, at home and at church is the same refrain, "How's business?" is a very lopsided individual. He has forgotten to live. When he gets to the golden gate he is still saying (as St. Peter can tell you!) "How's business?" He is as tiresome as the preacher with his religion on his sleeve

who greets the world with this chant: "How is your soul?"

Tell us what a man reads after hours and we can tell you what he is. By his books shall ye judge him.—*Mary Dyer Lemon, ed., Readers' Ink.*

The Outlook*

We may be encouraged to believe the use of the public library is more thoro and the demand greater than at any previous time. Reading for all the satisfactions of life is undoubtedly increasing. The study of history is pursued in all its sections, and the interest taken in the progressive changes of Time support Emerson's expression: "The use of history is to give value to the present hour and its duty. That is good which commends to me my country, my climate, my means and materials, my associates." The more exact utilitarian knowledge is eagerly sought, and the advantages are not merely individual, for they may ultimately benefit mankind. Not less gratifying is the amount of reading for recreation; it consoles, soothes and fortifies the highest gift of mankind, the mind; recreation restores both mind and body."

Sir Philip Sidney said: "In all your recreations let the riches of knowledge be carried in the stream of delight." We may rejoice in the fact that this increase extends to all branches of literature. Literature is more than a record; it is the creator of character, purpose and feeling; the inspirer—the maker of the future as well as the preserver of the past. The perfection of its form is in Poetry, of which Wordsworth gives us a definition: "Poetry is the breath and finer spirit of all knowledge; it is the impassioned expression which is the countenance of all science."

Are we not all inclined to seek some path out of the disordered world today that may lead us to a clearer light whereby the tangled threads of Right and Wrong may be separated and the spirit of Hope again inspire human enterprise?

*Adapted from address of President Abbott before the English Library Association.

Our Welcome to A. L. A.

The honor of flinging wide its doors to the forty-fifth annual conference of the American Library Association challenges the hostess spirit of Hot Springs, the state and the entire South. The voice of the little hostess city cries "Welcome" in no uncertain tones. The conference dates are April 23-28. The outstanding feature in the announcement, that the conference is to be held in Hot Springs, is that it will be the first time this body has met in a town in the far South.

United States government for the people, for all time, as a national park, playground and sanitarium and is the best equipped town of its size in the world for handling conventions.

The town nestles in the scenic valley of the pine-clad Ozark mountains. It is reached by excellent railroad service over the Rock Island and Missouri Pacific lines. Unlike most towns which are laid out symmetrically in blocks, the streets of the resort wind* in and out and follow the ravines in a most picturesque way. Central ave-



Further interest lies in the fact that the South needs the conference to arouse to action some sections where libraries are nearly unknown. Hot Springs itself is in need of a library which will be a credit to the resort. Just because of this need, too much emphasis on the welcome can not be stressed.

On the other hand, the holding of the convention at Hot Springs will be recognized as an opportunity by the librarians and others to see the American Spa, one of Nature's most favored spots, which has been set apart by the

nue, the main thoroughfare, is so narrow at one point that there is room only for a single row of buildings on one side. The very heart of the resort is flanked on the east by Hot Springs mountain with its 46 thermal springs, from which flow one million of gallons of water daily, at an average temperature of 137 degrees. At the summit of this mountain an observation tower offers a magnificent view of the surrounding country. The mountain trails, paths and drives, govern-

*See P. L. 28:145.

ment built, can be seen winding in and out in all directions. In fact, so accessible are the mountain paths to the hotels and the very center of things, that ample opportunity will be afforded the delegates for strolls between convention sessions.

Hot Springs is really near the center of population. It is within a few hours of the great cities of the interior. Its public utility service would compare favorably with any city many times its size. In April, Hot Springs is always at its best. There is a tonic in the air. The wild flowers of spring and the mountain paths will call you. Those who are fagged, mentally and physically, will soon catch the spirit of the Ozarks and will find that they will get more out of the convention sessions than ever before.

For those who like to play there are golf links, tennis courts, boating, swimming and other out-door sports. For the curious there is a great ostrich farm and also one of the largest alligator farms in the country. There are amusement parks, suburban resorts and many places of interest in and about Hot Springs.

Hot Springs, aside from its accessibility, conveniences, climatic advantages and scenic inducements, is interesting because it is rich in legendary background which has to do with the Indians, Ponce de Leon in his search for the "Fountain of Eternal Youth," DeSoto and others.

But the keynote of Hot Springs is hospitality. The facilities of the community will be at the disposal of all the delegates interested in libraries who attend the forty-fifth conference of the American Library Association in Hot Springs National Park.

ALTA SMITH,

Director of publicity.

Business Men's league,

Hot Springs National Park, Ark.

Every library trustee, every librarian and every one in the library service are invited to call at PUBLIC LIBRARIES desk at the A. L. A. convention.

American Library Association

Dr W. Dawson Johnston, librarian of the American Library in Paris, Inc., has been appointed by President George B. Utley of the American Library Association to represent the association at the congress of librarians and bibliophiles to be held in Paris, April 3-9, 1923.

Milton J. Ferguson, state librarian, Sacramento, California, will represent the A. L. A. at the World conference on education, Oakland, San Francisco, June 28-July 6, held in connection with the annual meeting of the N. E. A.

The A. L. A. Conference Bulletin states that 204 new members have joined the association between January 1, 1922 and March 6, 1923.

The constitutional amendments, as proposed by the committee, are in parallel columns with the constitution as it now stands, in the *Conference Bulletin*.

Secretary's report

The report of the secretary makes a rather wide presentation. Based on the statement that there is vastly more to be done than has been done, several statements challenge attention.

Many public libraries and traveling libraries are wholly inadequate in book supply and are of relatively little value as educational institutions. Few library borrowers are using the library to the fullest extent. Most libraries are able to do but a fraction of the work they should do, and even the best ones are probably failing to render maximum service. The reasons for this are:

a) There are not enough well educated persons in library work with special training or experience in library work.

b) The general public does not realize what libraries can do to promote popular education.

Some of the constructive suggestions are: Increase of salaries so that employing boards can demand and get higher qualifications; some scheme for accrediting library training agencies; accredited library schools enabled to pay salaries that will attract to their faculties those

who will rank well with those in faculties of other professional schools; facilities for advanced training in library administration, bibliography and special kinds of library work; some plan of scholarship or subvention which would enable those prepared to write or compile needed textbooks on library work; a comprehensive library survey; knowledge of book resources available in large libraries to facilitate inter-library coöperation; bibliographies for research workers, provided by some central agency; a "readers' guide" to library publications; permanent exhibit of library appliances; representatives of the library profession should attend meetings of other organizations and be prepared to make addresses at such meetings; also to attend meetings in states without state library extension agencies; specialists in library work should be available to give advice; a publicity agent. Other suggestions were with regard to a larger membership.

Employment service is reported to have been extended in many directions. Much opportunity has been given to further library development by advising as to the qualifications to be required in those considered for specified positions. More persons have been placed in organizing positions than during the two previous years. The demand for well qualified librarians continues to exceed the supply. "There has been difficulty in finding men"... properly equipped for a number of positions "where reasonably adequate salaries were offered." Recruiting for library service has borne fruit so that "it was a rare day when at least one inquiry as to 'how to become a librarian' failed to come in."

Officers, members of Headquarter's staff, and other especially appointed delegates have represented the A. L. A. at nine meetings, installation and celebrations of a national character; eight meetings of state library associations and one state teachers meeting were visited. Members of the Headquarter's staff have addressed library

school students, members of library staffs and other groups.

Exhibits have been made at meetings of the American Medical association, American Hospital association, and many state meetings.

Hundreds of letters about library establishment come to A. L. A. Headquarters in the course of a year from chambers of commerce, women's clubs, school superintendents, teachers and other interested citizens. "They come from the states, from Alaska, from the provinces of Canada, and occasionally from other countries."

"Some of the largest cities of the country without libraries have recently completed preliminary organization and have written cordial letters of thanks to the association for help rendered during the last several months, in one case, the last several years." Many requests for aid in the establishment of county libraries have been adequately met.

The school library movement has made most insistent demands on A. L. A. Headquarters for help and advice in the development of their libraries which printed material at hand has helped to meet. Headquarters has been able to get expert advice on all school library questions thru the Committee on education.

A. L. A. Headquarters continues to supplement with War Service funds the library work carried on by the U. S. Government for ex-service men in hospitals. The director of hospital library service in the Veterans' bureau is paid from War Service funds, as are also a few of the other employees. An appropriation was made from these funds also to aid library service in the navy. A portion of the salary of the librarian of the American library in Paris is also paid from War Service funds.

The Committee for work with the blind has issued some few books—two numbers of the Booklist of revised braille have been issued from Headquarters.

There has been a gain of 73 per cent in publications distributed over the twelve months reported last year and a gain of 241 per cent over the 12 months reported two years ago. This report will be revised and brought up to March 31, and afterwards printed in the *Proceedings*. During the nine months, 22 new publications, 26 reprints or new editions, and one placard were issued. Numerous advertising leaflets were issued and distributed by the thousands. A list of publications, 1922-1923, is given in the report.

In May, 1922, the paid subscriptions to the *Booklist* were 5000; in March, 1923, the paid subscriptions were 4862; the free list in May was 115; in March, 110.

Extensive advertising and publicity were carried on during the year largely thru publications and prepared reading lists. Exhibits of various kinds also aided in this.

Receipts from annual membership dues in 1922 were 24 per cent greater than in 1921 and 50 per cent greater than in 1920; receipts from the sale of publications in 1922 were 30 per cent more than in 1921 and nearly 100 per cent more than in 1920.

The association has more than 45 committees actively at work. These activities, combined with those of officers and other members, represent a quality and quantity of work which could not be done by paid employees.

The treasurer's report for February, 1923:

General funds

Receipts	
Balance in the treasury.....	\$ 2524
Membership, annual dues.....	4711
Life memberships	50
A. L. A. War Funds, 1923.....	2000
A. L. A. publishing funds (third payment, 1922 account)	1000
Contributions for Russian librarians...	10
Total	\$10,301

Expenditures	
Bulletin	\$ 10
Committees	94
Salaries	1550
Additional service	224
Supplies	133
Postage, telegraph, telephone.....	113

Endowment fund.....	50
Office equipment	47
Russian relief	10

Total	\$ 2264
Balance	\$1686

Publishing funds

Receipts	
Balance	\$ 1608
Sale of publications.....	1337
<i>Booklist</i> subscriptions	1038
Sale of books (review copies).....	180
Interest (February)	2

Total	\$ 4167
-------------	---------

Expenditures	
Salaries	\$ 549
Printing <i>Booklist</i>	272
Advertising	318
Express and postage	381
Supplies	151
Incidentals	46
Publications	1098
Office equipment	11
A. L. A. general funds, Headquarters expense (third payment).....	1000

Total	\$ 3829
Balance	\$ 337

Books for Everybody fund

Receipts	
Balance	\$13,806
Payment on pledges.....	90
Interest (February, 1923).....	4
Total	\$13,900

Expenditures	
Library extension	\$ 40
Booklists, reading lists, etc.....	397
General library publicity.....	44
Recruiting	7
Endowment fund	3496

Total	\$ 3986
Balance	\$ 9914

War funds

Receipts	
Balance	\$69,217
Interest (February)	44
Total	\$69,261

Expenditures	
A. L. A. headquarters expense.....	\$ 2000
Hospitals	1198
American library in Paris.....	476
U. S. Navy.....	3000
Miscellaneous	210
Men in institutions not served by U. S.	297
Total	\$ 7182
Balance	\$62,078

Concerning 1923 Meeting

The day in St. Louis

Plans for the entertainment of A. L. A. delegates at St. Louis promise an interesting day for Sunday, April 22. The Chicago train will arrive early in the morning and it may be possible to arrange for its stopping somewhere in vicinity of Forest Park, to allow those who wish to leave the train at this point to breakfast at the new Chase hotel and be in a position to pass the morning in that part of the city, which is near such points of interest as the Art museum and the Zoölogical garden, besides being convenient for most of the larger churches.

This party will join the New York party at the Public library shortly after the latter's arrival at about 1:30 p.m., and after an inspection of the building, the combined parties will enter automobiles for a trip through the city.

There will be an inspection of branch libraries by those who desire it, including one of the new built-in branches in school buildings. The trip will extend as far west as Washington university, where an inspection of the University library will be made and the party will attend an organ recital tendered by the university in the chapel.

The return to the Public library will be in time for a buffet supper at which the party will be the guests of the local chapter of the A. L. A. The details of the whole day's entertainment are in the hands of a committee of the chapter with which local libraries are actively co-operating. The party, swelled by the St. Louis contingent, will take the train for Hot Springs in the evening at 8:45.

Travel announcement

No change has been made in the travel announcements as they appeared in *PUBLIC LIBRARIES* (28:92-94).

Railroad rates, a fare and a half, may be obtained by identification certificate secured beforehand from A. L. A. Headquarters, and presented to the ticket agent, when buying a roundtrip ticket going and returning by the same route. Those taking the post-conference trip should buy one-way, regular fare tickets, without identification certificates.

The Chicago party will leave Saturday night, April 21, under the direction of John F. Phelan, Chicago public library, with whom reservations should be made before April 15. The New England party will leave Boston, April 20, under the direction of F. W. Faxon, 83 Francis Street, Boston, with whom reservations should be made before April 12. The New York party will be under the direction of Franklin H. Price, Free library, Philadelphia, and reservations should be made before April 12. Charles D. Johnson of Memphis will be glad to make reservations for delegates leaving Memphis if he is notified before April 12.

The minimum number having registered, the post-conference trip is assured. A few places are still available if early application is made, with payment of \$25, to F. W. Faxon, Boston. The minimum cost of the trip, from Hot Springs to New York, April 28-May 21, is \$350. (See *PUBLIC LIBRARIES* 28:93 for further information.)

Hotel reservation

It is to be remembered that rooms will be reserved on application direct to the Eastman hotel, Hot Springs.

Programs of General sessions

Monday

Library development in the Southwest, Elizabeth H. West, president, Southwest library association, Austin.

Library development in the Southeast, Mary U. Rothrock, president, Southeastern library association, Knoxville, Tenn.

Address—Dr John J. Tigert, U. S. Commissioner of education, Washington, D. C.

The program will be followed by a reception at the Eastman hotel.

Tuesday

(Joint meeting with School libraries section.)

The school library movement, Joy E. Morgan, editor *Journal of the National Education Association*.

Elementary school libraries, Harriet A. Wood, Minnesota department of education.

High school libraries, A. C. Parsons, superintendent, Oklahoma City schools.

Normal school libraries, Anna V. Jennings, State normal school and Teachers college, Kearney, Nebraska.

Wednesday has been designated as Citizens' day. At a short general session the speakers will be Commander Alvin M. Owsley of the American legion and George B. Utley, president of the A. L. A. On this date, too, Dr A. E. Bostwick will be in charge of a Readers' round-table.

Thursday afternoon will be set aside for recreation, when the city of Hot Springs, the state of Arkansas and the librarians of the South will be the hosts of all the rest. Charles D. Johnson, Memphis, Tenn., will be master of ceremonies. Among the attractions set out for the visitors is a barbecue in real Southern style.

Friday

Business meeting—reports and discussions.

As others see us, Nellie E. Parham, Withers public library, Bloomington, Illinois.

Saturday

County libraries for the South, Mary B. Palmer, Public library commission, Raleigh, N. C.

Putting a county library law thru the legislature, Purd B. Wright, Kansas City public library.

How the Harris county library was started, Julia Ideson, Houston public library.

Working for county libraries in New Jersey, Sarah B. Askew, New Jersey public library commission.

Rural libraries and citizenship —

Sections and round-tables

Various sections, affiliated organizations and other groups have programs of interest.

The Agricultural libraries section, under the chairmanship of H. O. Severance, University of Missouri, will discuss Library extension thru package libraries, traveling libraries and single books.

Standardizing agricultural publications will be discussed by Margaret Galloway, Arkansas agricultural college.

Training the college freshman in the use of the library, Fannie Dunlap, University of Illinois.

Relation of agricultural library extension to the work of the public library commission, Charles H. Brown, Iowa state college.

Work with negroes, under the direction of George T. Settle, Louisville, has a program of interest for those who are concerned with this question, Tuesday p. m.

Law librarians

The American association of law libraries has chosen the Hotel Arlington as headquarters and will remain in continuous session, recessing to listen to such proceedings of various sections of the A. L. A. as may be of vital interest to law librarians.

The address of welcome will be made by Chief Justice Edward A. McCulloch of Arkansas. Various reports will be offered.

Of special importance will be:

List of law libraries for the *Standard Legal Directory*, Olive C. Lathrop.

Printing of page numbers and Arabic volume numbers on title pages, Andrew H. Mettee.

Law publications, law publishers and law booksellers, Ralph H. Wilkin.

Skeleton index for legislation, Luther E. Hewitt.

Financing the *Index to Legal Periodicals*, George S. Godard.

Index to Legal Periodicals, Franklin O. Poole.

Massachusetts laws on printing, publishing and care of public records and documents, Howard L. Stebbins.

Criminology literature, Frederic B. Crossley.

Roman and civil law, Peter J. Hamilton.

Cataloging and classification of Roman and civil law books, Edwin M. Borchard.

Limits in furnishing service, Earnest A. Feazel.

Business side of law libraries, Lucile Vernon.

Symbols for group lists, John P. Dullard.

A series of biographical sketches of noted lawyers will be given by various speakers.

Catalog section

In charge of Helen B. Sutliff, Stanford university library, Thursday a. m.

The general subject will be cataloging in its larger aspects. The report of the Committee on reorganization will be made by Margaret Mann, Engineering Societies library, New York. Other subjects discussed will be Cataloging in the university and large reference library; Should the cataloger be called bibliographical assistant? These subjects will be discussed by T. F. Currier and A. G. S. Josephson.

Under "Cataloging of special collections," the Hoover war library will be discussed by Nina Almond, Stanford university.

Southwestern history collections of the University of Texas, F. W. Winkler.

The Flach collection of French history, Florence B. Currie, University of Missouri.

The maker and user of the catalog, Miss Jim P. Matthews, University of Arkansas, and Jane Martin, University of California.

L. C. cards and their distribution, C. H. Hastings, Library of Congress.

Catalog staff meetings, Mrs. J. T. Jennings, Public library, St. Paul.

Relation of the catalog department to the other departments of the library, Bess Stewart, Public library, Oklahoma City.

Public library round-table, Grace Hill, Public library, Kansas City.

Other topics for discussion will be Music cataloging in a public library, Coöperative Cataloging and Handling of duplicate titles.

College and reference section

Chairman, W. E. Henry, University of Washington, Wednesday evening.

Special collections of the University of Texas, J. E. Goodwin, Austin.

University of Missouri library extension service, Grace Barnes, Columbia.

Discussion by Louis R. Wilson, University of North Carolina.

Ranking of the staff in a university library, Andrew Keogh, Yale university.

Union list of serials, H. M. Lydenberg, New York public library.

Regional grouping of libraries for coördinating purchasing of expensive reference sets, J. T. Gerould, Princeton university.

Rental collections for reserved reading; Departmental libraries; Standards of volumes per capita, will be subjects for general discussion.

Those interested in university and college library plans are requested to bring blue prints, sketches or photographs for exhibit and discussion during outside hours.

Hospital libraries round-table

In charge of Miss Perrie Jones, St. Paul, on Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

The therapeutic value of books in a neuropsychiatric hospital, Mrs M. P. D. Miller, U. S. Veterans' hospital, Little Rock.

Arousing the library profession to meet the peculiar needs of the hospital library, and other topics of importance in the line of duty in hospital library service will be discussed.

Lending section

Will hold two sessions, under the direction of Marie L. Fisher, Carnegie library of Pittsburgh, on Wednesday.

Some of the outstanding essayists of the present day, Charles B. Shaw, North Carolina college for women.

Novels of the last two years, Edith Tobitt, Omaha public library.

Poetry and parody, Marilla W. Freeman, Cleveland public library.

Censorship of fiction in a public library, Mary U. Rothrock, Lawson McGhee library, Knoxville.

A more humane schedule at the lending desk, Pearl I. Field, Chicago public library.

Libraries and delinquent borrowers, Walter I. Bullock, Carnegie library, Pittsburgh.

Stimulating reading, Zaidee Brown, H. W. Wilson Company.

What an assistant can do to better library service, Lloyd W. Josselyn, Public library, Birmingham.

Professional training section

Under the direction of Elva L. Bascom, University of Texas, will discuss Courses of study in public library training classes; Is a standardized curriculum possible? Is library school credit for standardized training class courses possible?

School libraries section

Under the direction of Harriet A. Wood, has a comprehensive and interesting pro-

gram. Every phase and angle of school libraries, from rooms and equipment to smallest details, are provided for.

Small libraries round-table

Under the direction of Margaret A. Wade, Indiana, will discuss Short cuts and simplified routine; The untrained assistant, and Extension of service.

The Southwestern association

Monday, all day program, with Library extension as the subject of general discussion, Elizabeth H. West, Austin, in charge. The following topics will be presented:

A plan for coöperative library extension in the Southwest, Mrs J. R. Dale, Oklahoma library commission.

How the county library takes books to everybody, Mrs Cora Case Porter, Oklahoma.

How the school library can spread the library idea, Mary Hynes, Arkansas.

The responsibility of the college library to library extension work, Estelle Lutrell, Arizona.

How the business library can increase its service to the public, Virginia Fairfax, New Orleans.

The religious and theological library, Leslie R. Elliott, Texas.

Library training in the Southwest, Elva L. Bascom, University of Texas.

What the Southwestern library can and should do for various defectives and delinquents will be presented by librarians interested.

Trustees section

Under Mrs Elizabeth C. Earl, Indiana, will hold two sessions and discuss the general subjects, How can the trustee further library development and extension?

University library extension

Will hold two sessions when various forms of sending out reading matter, thru package libraries, debating material, etc., will be discussed by those who have had large experience in this line.

Children's section

The program for the Children's librarians' section as arranged by Miss Elva S. Smith, chairman of the section, promises the following:

First session: The place of the children's librarian in the community, Mrs Anna P. Mason, Public library, St. Louis.

The library and the neighborhood motion picture theatre, Mrs Adele Henry Maze, Public library, Oak Park, Illinois.

What the library means to the public school, Orton Lowe, Department of public instruction, Harrisburg, Pa.

The Rural child—Our new responsibility, Georgie G. McAfee, Public library, Evansville, Indiana.

Second session: The Effect of the present development of school libraries upon library children's rooms, Faith E. Smith, Public library, Los Angeles, California.

Better books for young readers, Emily P. Street, F. A. Stokes & Company, New York City; Alice I. Hazeltine, St. Louis, public library.

Influencing the reading of children, Eva G. Leslie, Public library, Cleveland, Ohio.

The presentation of the Newberry medal will be made at the second session.

The third session will be devoted to business.

State libraries

The National association of State libraries will hold its conference at Hot Springs, Arkansas, during the week beginning April 23. A very interesting program is in prospect. The general theme will be the Library and the state, based upon a survey by George S. Godard of Connecticut.

The Council

The Council will hold two meetings at Hot Springs, Monday, April 23, at 2:30 and Saturday, April 28, at the close of the last general session. Topics for discussion are Affiliation of state associations; Survey of library personnel by the Institute for government research; Schemes of library service; National certification; Hospital libraries; Library training; Reports.

Entertainment

The barbecue, at Whittington park, at 12:30 on Thursday, will be followed by a motor trip to points of local interest, the A. L. A. being the guests of the Library board of Hot Springs. Arrangements will be made for those wishing to visit places of interest more remote. Thursday evening has been set aside for group dinners.

The A. L. A. has issued a booklet of some 20 pages which includes popular books in science, with a reading list. This list was compiled by a committee of the Washington academy of sciences, thru the interest of many members of the academy.

Lecture course on public speaking

A series of five lectures on public speaking will be given at Hot Springs during the conference by Professor Franklin L. Gilson, State Teachers college, Emporia, Kansas.

Advance enrollment is necessary for this. Fee, \$2 for the course.

The lectures will be given in the Eastman hotel at 8:15 each morning from Tuesday to Saturday, April 24-28.

An Important Event

The American committee for Devastated France last year put thru a most interesting scheme of giving to the women of the United States an opportunity of membership in a National Good Will delegation which had a most delightful six weeks' experience in the summer in France.

The purpose of the Good Will delegation is three-fold:

- 1) To enable the American committee to continue its work in the devastated regions.

- 2) To give representatives the opportunity to inspect the work done and that is to be done.

- 3) To give American women an opportunity to further an understanding between the people of France and America.

The libraries in France have been so conspicuously successful and interesting both to librarians in France and America that this year it is proposed to have an American librarian join the Good Will delegation. The Staff association of the New York public library has chosen a candidate in Miss Maria V. Leavitt who was unanimously nominated at a meeting of the association as the member of the staff "best qualified to represent it and the profession in general."

Miss Leavitt's training and experience, added to her knowledge of French and her active interest and effort for every bit of war work that came to librarians, make her exceptionally equipped to represent the library profession. Her work in the New York public library has combined good will and international interests. As one in charge of gifts of books and manuscripts sent to a great library, Miss Leavitt has made contact with libraries and individuals all over the world. She has been for nine years chairman of the Welfare committee of the library and has contributed more than any one person to good working conditions and the good fellowship of the staff.

It is stated that this is not the usual competition but an election. There are no coupons to be clipped from the papers but an expression of choice must be made to the number of 60,000 votes. This, with money and checks for the work of the committee, must be sent to Miss Amelia Langdon, Public library, 476 Fifth Avenue, New York City. Miss Langdon will credit the votes (10 for \$1) to Miss Leavitt and turn the money over to the work in France.

The New York library club, judging from appeals, is interested in the election of Miss Leavitt, almost to a man, and even if Miss Leavitt should not be fortunate enough to reach the goal of 60,000 votes, it must be a matter of great satisfaction to receive, "while still in the body," so many obviously sincere expressions of great appreciation and good will from her fellow-workers.

Now that a librarian has been offered for the Good Will delegation, it is up to librarians of the country to show their loyalty to the craft and belief in the ability of one of their number.

Send in 100 votes for Miss Leavitt at once.

The Librarian Who Reads

An appeal was recently sent out by a New York publication which, paraphrased, might carry a message to librarians with regard to what they read.

What is the use of reading inferior magazines; of considering inferior opinions when the means are at hand to do the opposite? It is rank nonsense to hold certain grouches—that there is no fine intellectual life in America. Such life is present on all sides, boundlessly vital, creative, stimulating, but it is almost submerged in the flood of complacency, materialism and herd-proclivities and in the deadly mistaken conception of democracy. As if democracy, the robust, humane, aggressive, clear-headed democracy of the founders of America, ever contemplated a race of freemen too timid to dare to be themselves, too provincial to be "different," too far enslaved to Success to be free.

And you, and you, and you, and I must be aroused to the tremendous benefit of the

work of the so-called intellectual journals. We must be released from the commonplace, the outworn, the flat.

Drama Week

A report of Drama Week in Portland, Oregon, gives an interesting outline of the observance of the week in that city. Lists of drama material were compiled by the Public library, each one being compiled by a different member of the staff, and arousing a good deal of emulation and interest. Special posters decorated with cut out masques and noting books on the drama were placed over collections of these books in all the branches. A most interesting display was gathered for the main library, the layout consisting of pictures loaned by other cities, notably Cleveland, St. Louis, and Pasadena, showing their art and community theatres, samples of programs and other literature. In this display were also samples of interesting work which had been done in Portland. A series of productions was put on in Library hall by Portland groups interested in the drama.

There was comparatively little time in which to work up the celebration, and tho fair, it did not come up to original expectations, but a splendid foundation has been laid on which to work at another time. As there is no drama league in Portland, the whole responsibility of Drama Week fell on the library. It was one of the most interesting activities ever undertaken and doubtless did much to bring to the library the importance of the celebration.

An American who has been abroad for many years and is now tarrying in Washington notes the upgrowth of a profession hardly known when last he was in the country, in the late nineties. He refers to "publicity men." It was the World's Columbian Exposition at Chicago in 1893 that first devised a "Department of Publicity and Promotion," he says. "Moses P. Handy, a newspaperman and famous Clover Club wit, was put at its head. Somebody asked him just what his job was, 'I'm director of the Department of duplicity and commotion,' said Handy."

An Appeal for Protection

Prof Hilliard of the Department of biology, Simmons college, Boston, calls attention to a review in the *American Journal of Public Health*, of Henry C. Fuller's book, *The Story of drugs*, and states:

This review was made after a study by a special committee composed of Dr Arthur J. Cramp, American medical association; H. W. Redfield, chief, New York food and drug inspection station, Bureau of chemistry, U. S. department of agriculture, and Prof Hilliard of Simmons college. This committee communicated with the Century Company, publishers of *The Story of drugs*, with regard to the book but found them unwilling to withdraw it from sale or revise it. This opinion of an impartial and more or less expert committee which is interested solely in the public's welfare should be of value to librarians as serving the public in the interest of good books and, therefore librarians are requested to read the report of the committee which is as follows:

The story of drugs

Under the guise of an attractive, well edited book from the press of one of our reliable publishing companies,—The Century—with a catchy title,—“*The Story of Drugs*”—and by an author, Henry C. Fuller, whose antecedent connections are reliable enough, there has recently appeared a malicious and lurking piece of propaganda for the “Great American Fraud,” the patent medicine industry.

In the preface to are told that the patent medicine industry is “misunderstood and misrepresented” to which we emphatically say Amen! The contribution under consideration perpetuates the misconceptions that so many unsuspecting sufferers labor under. We are also told that “controversial matters have no place in this presentation” but with that we cannot agree.

It must be admitted that with very liberal deletions,—perhaps we should also say amputations, for entire organic parts would have to be removed—“*The Story of Drugs*” contains some useful material presented in an attractive way. Little objection can be raised to the opening chapters: “What Drugs are and Where They Come From,” “Farming for Medicine,” “How Medicines Are Made,” and “Nature's Gift to Mankind,” but so cleverly has the author projected his advocacy of certain proprietaries that it may almost escape the casual reader who becomes aware of the real purpose of the

book with a sense of chagrin and outrage at having been so cleverly taken in.

Fuller is connected with a commercial organization that works out technical problems for certain industries. His technical skill is not challenged and coupled with the adroit skill to advertise he should be a most valuable person for the patent medicine industries to retain.

“Dope and Not Dope” is the title of a chapter which sings the praises of king Coca Cola. In citing favorable expert evidence presented for the Coca Cola firm, he omits to speak of the testimony of the government experts even though he himself appeared for the government in this very suit. Antipyrin, acetanilid and acetphenetidin, we are here told “need cause little concern” so far as habit-forming tendencies are concerned.

The author is partial to alcohol and states “that no legitimate liquid medicinal preparations made in this country contain more alcohol than is absolutely necessary.” This doubtless is true, but Mr Fuller dodges the fact that all the alcoholic medicines for self-drugging are illegitimate. Also the brewers should have retained Mr Fuller to tell Congress of the vitamine content of beer!

The chapter on “Self-Medication—the Family Medicine Chest” contains a wonderful assortment of cure-alls. “For one and all” of a variety of ailments “the family medicine chest must contain its panacea.” How careful the choice of words—“panacea!” And on the shelf he would put Capudine, Wine of Cardui, Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, Dover's Powder, Brandy, Whiskey, Alcohol and Blackberry Cordial. The author must be overwhelmed with inquiries regarding ways of obtaining the latter “medicines.” Yes, a hypodermic and needles must be available on the home shelves but no clinical thermometer.

Truly this is a clever and notorious triumph for the patent medicine industry. Library boards might do well to scrutinize this book if they have been amongst the unsuspecting supporters of this propaganda.

Curtis M. Hilliard, Chairman
H. W. Redfield,
Arthur J. Cramp,
Committee on Propaganda,
American Public Health Association.

A merchant in a small way in a Michigan town sent his errand boy to the library with the following note:

Laibran

please give this boy a up to date romantic book

and a adventure also a up to date place because the *old stuff is not classe enough*.

LIBRARIAN.

Library Meetings

Atlantic City—The regular annual meeting of the New Jersey library association and the Pennsylvania library club was held at Atlantic City, March 2-3. The usual attractions of the place were in no wise lessened and the opportunity for pleasure and profit was in no wise curtailed.

The New Jersey library association held the first session on Friday afternoon with President James T. Gerould in the chair. After the usual business was transacted, Miss Sarah B. Askew of the New Jersey library commission presented the need of a committee representing both large and small libraries to look after the interests of libraries in the work which might be attempted by the State legislature. On motion, the incoming Executive committee was empowered to appoint a Legislative committee representing all classes of libraries.

Forrest B. Spaulding made a plea for interest and support of New Jersey librarians in the campaign for the election of Miss Leavitt of the New York public library as a library delegate in the Good Will delegation which, under the American committee for Devastated France, is to proceed to France next summer to carry a message of good will to those establishing libraries in France and to bring back accurate reports of conditions to those who make possible the journey.

Walter Darby of the New Jersey state department of Municipal accounts told briefly of what this department is trying to accomplish and the advantages of the budget system for public libraries.

Miss Askew told of the progress of the county library movement in New Jersey and the needs of the sparsely settled regions. She told of the excellent work which is being done by the county libraries now operating in Burlington, Camden and Morris counties.

Miss Alice W. Kendall, curator, Newark museum, gave an account of the museum's growth in the past 20 years, from the time the Public library

loaned a room to house Dr Disbrow's science collection and a few art objects to its present occupation of one entire floor and part of another. Her story of the varied gifts and development of the lending collections was most interesting, specially the recent acquisition by the city of Newark of a museum site and a gift of \$500,000 for a museum building. Miss Kendall's talk was illustrated by an exhibit of articles showing the type of articles loaned by the museum, both industrial and illustrating the manners and customs of peoples. She pointed out the mutual advantages to library and museum from association and advised every library to start a museum, no matter how small the beginning.

Mrs Kathryn B. Greywacz, acting curator, New Jersey state museum, gave the story of that institution and its transformation from the old-time repository to the present day lending collection. This latter includes lantern slides, educational moving picture films, stereographs, natural history cases, mounted pictures, industrial process charts and Indian relics. All this material is available to New Jersey libraries and will be loaned for a period of one month with no expense except that of transportation.

Mrs Greywacz asked for suggestions regarding the kinds of exhibits desired. An interesting exhibit of the processes of pottery making attracted attention.

At the Friday evening meeting, F. W. Faxon gave his annual announcement of the A. L. A. meeting, this year at Hot Springs, Arkansas, and of the post-conference trip, in his usual alluring fashion which made every one who heard him desire to join the expedition.

The Resolutions committee reported on a letter from the District of Columbia library association requesting the New Jersey association to take action similar to their own in regard to the building fund for A. L. A. Headquarters. The committee offered a resolution that the secretary acknowledge the letter but that no action be taken

until plans were outlined by the A. L. A.

Another resolution adopted was one urging librarians and library boards to interest their congressmen and senators in securing adequate appropriation for the Library of Congress, which was adopted.

Another resolution adopted was one expressing deep interest and cordial approval of the project for restoration by the scholarship of America, of the library of the University of Louvain, and urging each library in New Jersey to contribute to the fund for that purpose.

The following officers were elected to serve the association for the coming year:

President, Edmund Miller, Free public library, Jersey City; first vice-president, Edith Smith, Morris county library; second vice-president, Bessie Newkirk, Public library, Camden; secretary, Harold Bingham, Public library, New Brunswick; treasurer, Kate Brown, Public library, Orange.

Under the title, New books: What we want and what we are getting, Mrs May Lamberton Becker, editor of the *Reader's Guide*, in *New York Evening Post*, said that various lists and catalogs told what we are getting and that she had, from her strategic position, an unusual opportunity to answer the question, "What do we want?" She told of the scope of her work and denied the frequently made accusation that she wrote the queries as well as the answers. She spoke of the recent "Outlines" of history and science which responded to man's need for orientation in a time of unusual disturbance and of the interesting problem of preparing a business man's list of books to form the nucleus of a social science library; of a request for books on the theatre which would develop an appreciative and more exacting theatre-goer and of the great demand by stay-at-homes for exciting travel books. She ended by giving an analysis and contrast of the

present day novelists of the United States and England.

The Library's province in the town was treated by Edward Katzenbach, trustee of the Public library, Trenton. Mr. Katzenbach opened his talk with a vigorous defense of Thomas Hardy and other outstanding Victorian writers. He pleaded for the old substantial in literature and arraigned the modern system of education which does not educate; which classifies students but retards individual development. He talked of the library's opportunities and the distinctive duties of the trustees, librarian and staff. He said that the vital work of the public library was to teach children what is good in books and thus to help overcome the leveling tendency of modern education. He pleaded for a broad library policy and warned against the danger of allowing petty detail to obscure vision. He urged absolute coöperation with those who are struggling to raise education from its sad dead level.

Libraries and community planning, by Frederick Paul Keppel, president of the Carnegie Corporation, was one of the two addresses in the joint meeting with the Pennsylvania library club. Mr Keppel contrasted the community plans of former times when the glory of the sovereign and defense against the enemy shaped the growth of the town with that of today when the impelling motive is to make industries efficient, homes healthful and comfortable, and to give to all opportunity for recreation out of doors. More than 300 cities in the United States are zoned and working under definite plans. Most important of all, he said, was the region within a 50 mile radius of New York, and librarians have a definite duty to perform in seeing that their libraries have the best books on the subject and in making an effort to develop interest in the historic background and, always and in every way, to aid in helping to hold a broad conception of the work. Most important of all was the education of public opinion to think in terms of the whole

community. Mr Keppel spoke of the interesting problem of turning the Morris canal into a great state boulevard. He urged all librarians in New Jersey who are interested to communicate with the Russell Sage Foundation, City of New York Planning, 130 East Twenty-Second Street, and ask to be put on the mailing list.

Stark Young, dramatic editor of the *New Republic*, gave an illuminating talk on Ideas in the theatre. He warned against accepting good intention for art. He said that a play must be judged by what it says, not by what it tries to say. That the purpose of all art is to dilate all experience for us. He urged tolerance of new ideas and forms of expression and said that the ruthless test of all art is, Does the artist create and is his art alive?

There were about 325 present at Atlantic City. There were the usual library school dinners and much general enthusiasm and interest. The Drexel library school attended the convention, accompanied by Mrs Howland, director, and Miss Curtis, vice-director. The staff and school were warmly received. The Drexel dinner was held Saturday night at which there were 35 present.

The weather for the three days was delightful, clear and warm, like a June day, and everyone enjoyed the trip. There were no outstanding incidents. There were the usual exhibits, one a very interesting poster exhibit sent by the National Child Welfare association.

The speaker of the Pennsylvania library club for the Saturday evening session was Harold S. Loeb, Esq., whose illustrated address on the History and development of the book-plate was delightful. The development of the modern book-plate, Mr Loeb said, is almost as old as the invention of printing; one of the earliest known examples being engraved in Germany about 1470. Early plates consisted mostly of heraldic devices, but this fashion changed about 1830. Mr Loeb showed many pictures of book-plates designed by old masters, such as Al-

brecht Dürer, Virgil-Solis, Beham, and others. Several samples were shown of famous colonials, such as William Penn, Paul Revere (who designed his own book-plate), and George Washington. Eight presidents of the United States possessed book-plates. Those of Roosevelt, Taft and Wilson were shown. Plates of other famous men included were Thomas Bailey Aldrich, Enrico Caruso, Phil May, and Maxim Gorki. Mr Loeb showed also many examples of foreign work, in the different mediums, such as wood engraving, etchings, steel engravings, and various other processes; also various types, such as the book-pile, library interior, pictorial, punning and musical book-plates. These were followed by the delicate photogravures of the Marquis von Bayros.

MARTHA L. COPLIN,
Secretary.

California—The Ninth district of the California library association met February 10, at Red Bluff, in the new County library's quarters, under the auspices of Miss Elizabeth Stevens, librarian of the Tehama County free library, Miss Ella Packer of the Colusa county library acting as secretary.

The nine counties belonging to the district were represented by librarians, many of whom had undergone severe experiences on account of the weather, to join the meeting. In addition, there were librarians from other parts of the state, high-school principals, county and city officials, club women, and many others of the community interested in the work of the library.

Among those who entered into the discussions were Miss Thelma Brackett of Siskiyou county; Mrs Dorothy C. Worden of Colusa county; Miss Edna J. Hewitt of Sutter county and Miss Susan T. Smith, librarian of the Sacramento public library and president of the State association.

The various problems involved in library service were discussed by Miss Essae M. Cluver, instructor in the State library, and Miss C. D. Provines, li-

brarian of the Sacramento County library.

Milton J. Ferguson, state librarian, discussed The Library as a business institution.

The Sixth district met at Long Beach, February 24, with Miss Katharine D. Kendig of the Los Angeles public library presiding, and Miss Elizabeth Riddel of the Long Beach Atlantic Avenue school library as secretary.

The company was welcomed by the president of the Chamber of Commerce. State Librarian Milton J. Ferguson gave his message of Business in the library, which was discussed by Miss Susan T. Smith, president of the California library association. Miss Smith also gave a resumé of the activities of the association during the past few months, urging the support of all librarians for the Legislative committee's bill relative to the sale of stolen library books.

A series of round-tables was held where problems of everyday routine were discussed—administration, cataloging and reference.

There was an open meeting of the Special library association and also a group considered children's work in school libraries.

In the afternoon Dallas Lore Sharp gave a most stimulating address on Literature at Woodchuck Lodge. Miss Marion P. Greene told of her experiences abroad, under the subject of First aid to the spirit.

Miss Althea Warren, librarian of the San Diego public library, gave a charming address, Children in Books.

Altogether, the meeting was most inspiring and enjoyable.

The second district will meet, April 14, at Los Gatos.

The Fifth district will meet, April 21, at Jackson.

The annual meeting of the entire association will be held at Yosemite, June 4-6. A representative program is being arranged. The Yosemite Transportation Company is offering most attractive rates into the Valley. Out-of-state visitors will be made welcome and have an opportunity to see one of the

beauty spots of the world while at the same time gaining first-hand information of California's library system.

For further information, address Hazel G. Gibson, secretary, C. L. A., Court House, Sacramento, California.

Chicago—The Chicago library club celebrated its thirty-first birthday on Thursday evening, March 8. The meeting was held at the College club, with nearly 200 present. Mr George B. Utley, president of A. L. A. and an ex-president of the club, took the chair for the evening, and his contributions to the discussions as they proceeded were both gracious and timely. The program was made up of addresses by four ex-presidents who told of the special things that had impressed them in the years of the club's existence. Miss M. E. Ahern's address which was the first on the program covered the years from 1896 to 1906.

A most interesting part to many was a reminiscent letter from Miss Eleanor Roper of New York who was formerly a member of the club when she lived in Chicago. She paid tribute to the inspiration received from the former members and spoke feelingly of the personal kindness and professional help of the leaders in Chicago library circles in the early days.

Louise B. Krause, perhaps one of the best known business librarians in the country, paid tribute to the value of membership in a general library club. She said, that to her, the value of the many-sided discussions of library technique was invaluable, that any librarian must depend on the library literature for knowledge and increase in library intelligence, but for professional spirit and understanding, as wide a circle of association as possible was also necessary, and the Chicago library club had furnished this opportunity to the business and special librarians in Chicago so well that they had not felt the need of a separate association.

Mr C. B. Roden gave an inspirational talk based largely on a look backward to the contributions of

former members of the library circles of Chicago, and said that it was something worth striving for, to have such tributes to one's work and association as Miss Roper had paid to those who had affected her career.

A social committee under direction of Miss Caroline E. Elliott managed affairs to the extent of a very delightful hour of exchange of opinions, reminiscences and future plans. It was altogether a most auspicious occasion.

The Chicago library club thru its membership has had a large share in shaping library affairs in the days of its existence, and each generation leaves an inspiring legacy to the oncoming membership.

District of Columbia—The annual meeting of the D. C. library association was held, February 2, and was devoted almost entirely to association business, the hearing of reports and election of officers. Among committees appointed was one to be concerned with recruiting activities; another was to investigate the feasibility of a union list of periodicals; another, a committee to ascertain the extent and location of archives material to be placed in the National Archives building, which latter idea the association endorsed.

The following officers were elected: President, Dorsey E. Hyde, Jr., U. S. Chamber of Commerce; vice-president, Anne G. Cross, librarian, Department of commerce; secretary, Mary F. Carpenter, Department of agriculture; treasurer, Sara Abbott, superintendent of Documents library; executive committee, Mary G. Lacy, Bureau of Agricultural Economics library, John D. Wolcott, librarian, Bureau of education, and Thomas P. Ayer, librarian, Federal trade commission.

Massachusetts—The Western Massachusetts library club's mid-winter meeting was held at the Public library, West Springfield, Thursday, March 8, and was attended by 63 members.

Winthrop S. Bagg, trustee of the library, welcomed the guests and intro-

duced the speaker of the morning session, A. L. S. Wood, literary and dramatic editor of the *Springfield Union*. Mr Bagg paraphrased the famous toast "To the ladies" and said, "To the newspapers; we can't get along without them." In his talk, Mr Wood outlined the principles underlying newspaper reviews of books and put in brief form, some of the ideals a newspaper reviewer keeps in mind. After his short address, Mr Wood answered questions in regard to reviewing.

Harold A. Wooster, president of the club, presided during the discussion of the best (?) books of 1922, given in the form of a court trial. The training classes of both the Westfield and Springfield public libraries were present and took an active part in this most interesting book discussion.

At the afternoon session, a paper called A Wail about reviewing, written by Walter Prichard Eaton, was read by James A. Lowell of the Amherst College library. Altho not very long it was decidedly clever and to the point. The address of the day was given by Mrs Rollin G. Sherwood, librarian of the Public library, Westport, Conn., on Contemporary essayists in which she recommended as recreation the reading of essays by the librarians who are obliged to spend much time with wearisome detail. Special readings from 10 different essayists of the day successfully proved her point, and the end of the address was heard with regret.

A visit to the Old Day house, one of local historic interest, was made by club members at the close of the meeting.

MERIBAH E. KEEFE,
Secretary.

New York—The February meeting of the New York Special Libraries association was addressed by Oswald W. Knauth of R. H. Macey Company. His subject was Income and its relations to business cycles. He pointed out the different financial and forecasting services and the necessity of collecting

varied statistical information for such purposes.

Raleigh S. Rife, of the Guaranty Trust Company, spoke on the business of foreign financing and how the financial library fits into the scheme of underwriting foreign loans. He traced the history of foreign financing in the United States which has developed to a remarkable degree. The power of absorption of foreign bonds by the American investor in the foreign financial field is considerable and is the means of putting private capital into the development of foreign countries.

This work makes additional demands for information on financial libraries. It is not easy to obtain correct information. A man who studied the countries may know more than one who has been royally entertained. When a country asks for a loan, the bank must know the past record. Therefore it must have some one dig up information all the time. Since rapid decisions are necessary, it is also necessary to have accurate and up to date information available at a moment's notice. A librarian in such an instance must sense the relation between information and the needs of her concern. Business men believe in the financial library but the demand is growing for a greater adaptability on the part of the library department to find important information and make it available.

Mr H. W. Wilson presented the possibilities of issuing an index to financial periodicals.

Miss Ernestine Rose made a plea on behalf of Miss Maria V. Leavitt of the New York public library, as candidate in the drive of the Good-Will elections, under the auspices of the American committee for Devastated France. The association pledged 1000 votes for Miss Leavitt, beside various individual pledges which were given.

Miss Leavitt is the only librarian who has been nominated throughout the field in connection with this undertaking.

Philadelphia—At a meeting of the Special Libraries council, Miss Florence R. Curtis of Drexel Institute library school spoke on Library school curricula. Miss Curtis pointed out that the librarian should be efficient in her business and obtain personal satisfaction therefrom. In order to attain these ends, the student should begin with a literary and informational background. Miss Curtis emphasized the advantage in actual library training of the profession's youth and its consequent freedom from hampering traditions. This makes for advantage in working out practical and economical methods. The profession has a history and one worth studying, both in the past and as it is being made at present.

Miss Curtis gave an account of the curriculum at Drexel Institute library school, outlining its various subjects. Of peculiar interest to all present was the breadth of subjects grouped under Administration and the stressing of the adaption of means and methods to the end that each class of the community be adequately served.

Puget Sound—At a meeting of the Puget Sound library club, called in Seattle, February 2, by the president, Miss Rebecca Wright, strong resolutions relative to measures before Congress in which librarians are especially interested were passed. There were two of them, the first protesting against the hardship on libraries that would ensue from the Lodge copyright bill and petitioning Congress to amend the section so as to permit the importation of books by libraries without the entangling process of ascertaining the ownership of the American agency.

The second resolution was in regard to the University of Washington library school loan fund.

It was voted to send copies of the resolution referring to national legislation to members of Congress in Washington.

A committee consisting of W. E. Henry, Miss Ellen F. Howe, and

Miss Kate M. Firmin, was appointed to take charge of the fund for the scholarship belonging to the library school.

The next meeting of the club will be held in Tacoma, in December. Miss Mary Kobetich, librarian, Stadium high school, Tacoma, was elected president of the club for the ensuing year.

Coming meetings

The Pacific Northwest library association will hold a meeting on the campus of the Oregon Agricultural college at Corvallis, June 11-13.

The Maine library association will hold its annual meeting at the Public library, Bangor, Maine, June 7-8.

District library meetings in Kansas: Concordia, April 4; Lawrence, April 6; Herington, April 10-11. South-eastern Kansas, probably Cherryvale, date to be announced later.

The Mississippi library association will hold its annual meeting in Columbus, April 12-13. Lloyd W. Josselyn of Birmingham will be the chief speaker.

New York library week

Augustus H. Shearer, president of the New York library association announces that Library Week for 1923 will be held at Silver Bay, on Lake George, September 3-8. Plans for a good program are already under way. Definite announcements will be made later.

A Wisconsin Idea

The Wisconsin Free Library commission announces a third general library conference to be held, July 16-28. The announcement states that previous conferences, in 1900 and 1915, proved so successful, as measured by results in the work afterwards, that many requests for another conference have been received, hence the present plan.

The two weeks will be devoted to growing problems of library service, every phase of library work and library extension receiving attention at the hands of those competent to speak. There will be a definite series of lectures conducted by experts in various subjects. Round-tables and other con-

ferences will be held and conducted by carefully chosen leaders. The afternoons will be free for informal group conferences, examination of the exhibits, visits to Madison libraries and for recreation. The university's summer school program will be open to those attending the conference at any time not occupied by library meetings.

All interested in library service within or without the library are invited to attend and any part of the program is open to those in attendance.

A special feature will be the possibility for gaining two university credits by those of junior rank who desire to follow the program of a definite course and pass an examination upon its completion. This will be especially welcome to those who are depending upon university credit for promotion.

The Library school will be headquarters for the conference and all libraries of the city will be open to the visitors.

A fee of \$5 will be charged for the two weeks. Rooms can be had for from \$3.50 to \$7 a week and good meals at a moderate cost are easily available.

No summer school will be offered in 1923.

July 14 is registration day. Advance registration is desired as it will greatly aid in planning for the largest success of the meetings. Registration and requests for further information should be sent to Miss Mary Emogene Hazeltine, Library school, Madison, Wisconsin.

The department of Slings and arrows in the *Boston Transcript* takes a fling at successive things. Recently occurred the following:

XXXIV. The Cataloguers

The vagaries

Of library cataloguers

Are both interesting

And amusing.

One of their specialties

Being to delete

All capital letters

From the titles of books.

Sir Walter Besant's novel,

For instance,

Greets the eye as

All sorts and conditions of men.

E. F. E.

Interesting Things in Print

The California state library has issued an annual statistics number of *Newspaper Notes of California Libraries*.

The A. L. A. has issued a fourth edition, revised and enlarged, of Graded list of stories to tell or read aloud, compiled by Harriot E. Hassler and Carrie E. Scott.

Booklist books for 1922, a selection, has been issued by the A. L. A. at Chicago. This may be had, single copies, 25 cents, and in quantities with a discount, according to size.

An excellent list of Quick reference books for business men has been issued by the Public library of Sunderland, England. American libraries would find interest in the material issued on various subjects, particularly along commercial and technical lines.

A classified list of the more important books, serials and trade publications for 1922, containing Literature of the coal industry for 1922, has been reprinted from *Coal Industry*. The list was prepared by E. H. McClelland, technology librarian, Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

The Massachusetts library club *Bulletin* for March gives a most creditable list of towns which, up to that time, had contributed to the fund for the restoration of the library of Louvain university. Something over 600 small towns had contributed somewhat over \$900 to the fund.

A catalog of the collection of instrumental and vocal scores in the Chicago public library has been issued under the title of Music. It is a book of 270 pages and represents not only a good piece of cataloging and printing but a rather complete catalog of music for popular use.

Library School Bulletin, No. 48, N. Y. S., is the register of New York State library school, and covers the entire period of the school's 35 years existence, January, 1887-December, 1921. Many valuable facts concerning those who have at-

tended the school are given, not the least of which is the list of students and their present addresses.

The Western Massachusetts library club has issued its annual *Suggested List of Books for Small Public Libraries*, from the City library, Springfield. This list is made up annually under the direction of the Western Massachusetts library club from the books published that year. The list is classified and annotated, giving title, author, publisher and price. It is a good list to have at hand.

Another contribution in the practical adaptation of college curricula to job requirements will be found in Job analysis and the curriculum by Dr Edward K. Strong, Jr., professor of Educational research, Carnegie Institute of technology, and Richard S. Uhrbrook, Employment supervisor, Traffic department, Western Union Telegraph Company, New York City. The book is based on research made by the Carnegie Institute of technology.

The American-Scandinavian Foundation has issued a list of books relating to Denmark, Norway and Sweden. While designed primarily as a reference book and aid in book selection for Scandinavian countries, the list should prove a useful source of authority in American libraries. The compilation was made by *Norden*, but the financial aid came from the Foundation. The latter hopes that later this bibliography, with additions suited to the needs of American libraries, may be brought out in English translation.

C. C. Certain of Detroit, Michigan, has issued a companion to his volume, *School library standards*, the present volume being intended for elementary schools. The work is published by the Board of education, Detroit, in which city there are 43 elementary school libraries operating on the basis set forth in *School library standards*.

Mr Certain has accepted a place on the program of the Hot Springs meeting of the A. L. A. when he will present a report on Elementary school libraries.

A book which will doubtless be received with gratitude by reference librarians is the volume, *Shakespearean oracles*, a collection of the most quotable short sayings from the great dramas. The collection, designed as a handbook for public speakers, debaters and writers, is made up of proverbs, familiar quotations, epithets, expletives and catch phrases. An index adds much to the value of the volume. (Faxon.)

Shakespearean oracles was compiled by Beza Boynton Kaiser, past president, Women's press club, Cleveland. The introduction is by Azariah S. Root, librarian, Oberlin college.

One of the most important directories for the personal use of those in library service has recently been issued for 1922. The *American Library Directory* gives a list of more than 9000 libraries, none of which serves a population of less than 1000. A list of library organizations, with their officers, library schools with the names of their directors, public libraries, including state and county libraries, with their names and the names of their librarians, public and school libraries of Canada, college and normal school libraries, libraries of other institutions of higher education, high school libraries, special libraries in every department, and a group of miscellaneous libraries such as hospital, association, etc., are included.

The *Directory* is issued by the R. R. Bowker Company, New York City.

A new edition of *Plays for amateurs* has been issued by H. W. Wilson Co. This new edition has been thoroly revised by Dr S. Marion Tucker, president of the New York drama league, and many of the plays in the older edition have been replaced by newer plays. The list is increased by some six pages, and a new feature which occurs in this list for the first time anywhere is the inclusion of the terms of royalty required where the play is produced.

In other respects, the list is the same as in former editions. A description of each play is given, with number of acts, scenes and characters required.

The list is divided into four groups; one-act plays, plays for men and women, plays for men, plays for women, list of longer plays for men and women. Plays suitable for high-school use are starred.

G—o
R—ight
O—n
W—orking

The first branch library in connection with the Newark free library was opened, March 4, with appropriate ceremonies. A leaflet distributed on the occasion was an example of the very high-class typographical work which always emanates from the Newark free library, and carried the following message:

The Springfield branch

A block from the corner of Springfield and Belmont avenues.

At 50 Hayes street

It belongs to the citizens of Newark, and especially to you who live on the Hill. It is administered by the trustees of the Public library as a public trust. The trustees see that it is made useful to the people and a credit to the city, a practical aid to the success of the worker, a source of recreation in hours of leisure, and an ornament to the neighborhood. They can do this with the funds provided by the city only if they have the help of the people, old and young, of the whole neighborhood. The responsibility is on you to see that the building and its contents are used with pride and respect; not only the books themselves and the building, but the sidewalk, and the street in front of the building, and the gardens, are placed in your hands for your pleasure and profit.

If you find the branch is profitable to you and adds to your enjoyment, tell others about it and thus aid in making your branch library more useful still.

Do what you can to prevent rough handling, mutilation and theft among these books. A few persons, unhappily, are ready to do harm to such instruments of education and progress and pleasure as our fellow citizens provide in these books.

J. C. DANA,
Librarian.

Books

A booklet which for typographical art is most pleasing, has been issued by Dr Theodore Wesley Koch, librarian, Northwestern university, Evanston, un-

der the double title, *The Leipzig book fair and Rebuilding the Louvain library*. Under the caption, *Travel sketches from the portfolio*, Dr Koch gives most interesting account of his experiences on various book purchasing jaunts and of the book situation as he met it in Germany.

"Fuel oil in industry" by Stephen O. Andros has been sent out in a second edition by the Petroleum Extension university, Fort Wayne, Indiana. The idea of using oil as a fuel is treated from every standpoint, chemical, physical, economical and descriptive. The list of the uses of fuel oil is quite enlightening. The book, of over 200 pages, is of interest to all those interested in engineering of all kinds.

A book recently received is an interesting addition to the collection of Americana. The book is the personal work of James J. Malone of Memphis, Tenn., whose purpose in writing it was to awaken interest in behalf of the American Indians and who has included in it many personal opinions and observations of his day.

Mr Malone in speaking of it says:

Many so-called histories have been issued in this section of the country containing sketches of most any one who would produce his picture and the price of the write-up. This has brought some discredit on our part of the country.

The volume has been well received by the Southern press and even by papers of distant Toronto, Philadelphia and Baltimore.

The story of the Indian written from an unprejudiced standpoint does not reflect great credit on the administration of his affairs by the Government. Anything which will contribute to a better understanding and knowledge of the future has a place in American libraries supported by taxation.

"The World's Greatest Religious Poetry" has been gathered within a space of about 850 pages by Caroline Miles Hill, Ph.D. Examination of the volume produces two directly opposite

effects. At first glance, one is struck by the immensity of the fields that were garnered, and feels lost. Closer attention brings to view poems which have stirred the waters for many readers in times gone by; brings to light again beautiful verses that once had filled the soul with joy, with faith, with a sense of beauty, poems from Job to Vachel Lindsay, with a multitude in between.

This volume will meet many needs of preachers, teachers, scholars, poets, and just plain people, with its songs of inspiration, search after God, faith, nature, life of man, prayer, worship, comfort in sorrow, conduct of life, death and immortality, and the after life. The purpose of the volume, as stated by the editor, "is to furnish delightful reading, to give comfort and consolation, to 'restore the soul,' as well as to supply material for the study of the history and psychology of religion—the last subject to be approached by scientific methods."

The call of poetry is universal, and from the child to the sage, the numbers appeal.

An introduction to "The World's Greatest Religious Poetry" by Herbert L. Willett, Ph.D., University of Chicago, says:

The heart and core of the best works of the spirit of reverence and devotion which the years have produced will be found here. To wander thru the aisles of this great cathedral of music and song. . . . is itself a joy and an enrichment, a renewal of fellowship with the best who have gone this way, a fresh discovery of the eternal secret of friendship with God.

Mrs Hill was for some time engaged in library work in Chicago, is a member of Chicago's best study clubs, a conscientious, scholarly student, and her volume, "The World's Greatest Religious Poetry," does her credit.

Indexes of titles, authors and first lines, filling some 50 pages, add valuable material to the volume.

The March number of *Poetry* (Chicago, Harriet Monroe, ed.) has a real feast of new poetry by a group of writers, most of whom have yet to

make their way, but the samples of whose work offered here are most promising. Indeed, the fact that they are here is an earnest of their future! "Prometheus" and "Like a roseleaf," by Phyllis Reid, and "Strength" by Dorothy C. Cochran, have an appeal that sings long after one has read them. The editorial comments from the trenchant pen of Harriet Monroe are worthy of attention. Her handling of the cocksure newspaper which makes pronouncement on "the greatest living poet" is most refreshing.

Illuminating if not convincing to the neophyte, is her comparison of recent poems by T. S. Eliott and Lew Sarett. Other writers review and appraise the poetry of today. One may learn from these concerning the output of today and its place in the line.

In the department, *Correspondence*, is an interesting defense of the recent volume of poetry by John Hall Wheelock with the title, "The Black Panther," which had been "done" in the January number of *Poetry*. Mr Wheelock is well known and well liked by library folk who will enjoy the banner raised in his defense. The article is by Marguerite Wilkinson and affords pleasure to the many friends of Mr Wheelock's poetry, as well as to his many personal friends. Space is lacking to specialize the other good things making up the number.

Poetry is a magazine which should be on every library's list of magazines.

Blackbeard, Buccaneer, is an unusual adventure story for boys, by Ralph D. Paine, and anything that he does is well worth consideration. Mr Schoonover illustrated the book, and many think that his pictures rank with those of his old master, Howard Pyle, under whom he studied for a number of years. (Penn.)

Die when I may, I want it said of me by those who knew me that I always plucked a thistle and planted a flower where I thought a flower would grow.—
Abraham Lincoln.

Library Schools

Carnegie library school, Pittsburgh

The lectures given recently by out-of-town specialists in library work included several which were unusually practical and helpful. Dr Arthur E. Bostwick's inspiring "Message to beginners" brought to all who heard it a broad vision of the meaning of library service. Miss Jessie Carson told of her work in developing library interest in France. Dr Sherman Williams, chief of the School Libraries division of the State department of education, Albany, New York, spoke on the "Relations of the school library to the public library," drawing upon his experience both as teacher and as librarian. Miss Mary Eileen Ahern, editor, *PUBLIC LIBRARIES*, combined delightful reminiscences of the A. L. A. as it was in the late nineties with advice on library service and problems.

Two lectures in the course of Library and community were given. One by Miss Caroline Spalding, director of the Educational department of the Joseph Horne Company, one of the large department stores of Pittsburgh, outlined the training which is given to every new employe and emphasized the value of the library in connection with this work. The other, by Miss H. Marie Dermitt, secretary of the Civic club of Pittsburgh, was on Some of the ideals and ordeals of civic work.

Dr Jesse Hayes White, head of the department of psychology at the University of Pittsburgh, is giving this year again a short course in Child psychology to the students in the course in library work with children.

NINA C. BROTHERTON,
Principal.

Drexel institute

The school, library students and faculty, attended the meeting at Atlantic City, March 2-4. The annual Drexel library school banquet was well attended. Miss Caroline B. Perkins was hostess and it was a great pleasure to have Miss June R. Donnelly, the former director, present. Mr and Mrs R. R. Bowker were guests of honor.

Practice work in libraries of neighboring cities will begin, April 14, when the school goes out for field work.

Mr Reece, principal of the New York library school, gave two lectures on Library buildings, one of which was illustrated by lantern slides.

Miss Anna A. MacDonald spoke on the library extension work of the Pennsylvania State library and the traveling library system. She said the large rural population in Pennsylvania made fine conditions for a county library system.

The Executive committee of the Graduates association has authorized raising the Alice B. Kroeger memorial fund from \$1250 to \$4000, the interest to be used for the benefit of the present school, possibly as a scholarship.

ANNE W. HOWLAND,
Director.

University of Illinois

The seniors completed their four weeks' assignment according to schedule and report an interesting and profitable experience. The school is under obligation to the public libraries of Evanston and Indianapolis, University of Chicago and Newberry libraries for their continued friendly interest and cooperation.

George B. Utley of the Newberry library who has made several visits to the library school in past years during his official connection with the A. L. A., visited the school, March 1-2, this time as president of the A. L. A. On March 1, Mr Utley spoke on the work of the large reference library, basing his remarks largely upon the connections of the Newberry library and the work done there. The staff and faculty dined with Mr Utley at the University club in the evening. On March 2, Mr Utley discussed "The outlook of the A. L. A."

Later in March, H. H. B. Meyer of the Library of Congress will be heard.

The library school will make its biennial visits to Chicago and Evanston in the week of April 2, the class being in charge of J. S. Cleavinger and Miss Anna Morris Boyd of the faculty. The class will number 30 members.

Pearl P. Paine who was registered in the Junior class has withdrawn from the library school.

Lois F. Shortess, assistant librarian, Eastern Illinois normal school, Charleston, has entered the Junior class. Miss Shortess has completed the first semester's work during successive summer terms.

Mrs Elleine H. McLellan, assistant in the Public library, Little Rock, Arkansas, has returned to the school to complete the course.

FRANCES SIMPSON,
Assistant-director.

Los Angeles public library

The course in high school libraries is to be enriched this year by lectures given by experienced school librarians. Laura Grover Smith inspired the class with her account of her work in the Virgil junior high school in Los Angeles. Mary Harris of Santa Ana will describe the first problems of a high school librarian. Marjorie Van Deusen of the Los Angeles high-school will discuss the reading tastes of high-school students, and Winifred Skinner will follow with her experiences with supplementary reading. Florence Behr of Long Beach will talk on instruction in the use of the library. Ruth Norton will describe her pioneer work in the Junior high-school library in Rochester.

These special lectures are the introduction to the class discussion of school library problems. Students who elect school library work are assigned to different school libraries for observation and practice.

MARION HORTON,
Principal.

New York public library

The Junior class spent four weeks in field work, assignments being made to the various branches and divisions of the New York public library, to several school libraries and to the Public library of Mamaroneck, N. Y. The second semester program began by including lectures by a number of visiting speakers, namely Forrest B. Spaulding of Gaylord Bros; W. W. Bishop, University of Michigan; Miss Adelene Pratt, Burlington County (N. J.) library, and Miss Zaidee Brown of Long Beach, Cal.

Mr John Archer, superintendent of the printing office and bindery of the New York public library, gave his series of lectures upon binding. Hamlin Garland spoke informally at the Wednesday afternoon social hour. On the morning of Friday, March 23, the junior students will leave for their New England inspection trip.

Four seniors are this year registered as candidates for the diploma and three others are taking individual courses. The open course attendance is again large, there being a total class enrollment of almost 200, the number of individuals being 125. The response from the New York public library and from the special libraries in the district is again hearty, and there are a few registrants from libraries in distant parts of the United States.

Entrance examinations for the year 1923-24 will be held on Saturday, June 9, 1923.

ERNEST J. REECE,
Principal.

Pratt institute

The visiting lecturers have so far presented public library problems from varying points of view, but beginning February 13, the attention of the class was turned to educational libraries. Miss Nancy Thompson, '12, librarian of the Normal School library, Newark, N. J., spoke on February 13 of the place the library holds in the Normal school, and on February 20, Miss Mary Hall, '95, of the Girl's high-school, gave one of her rousing talks on the high-school library, its possibilities and activities. College and university libraries had their turn next. Mr Andrew Keogh, librarian of Yale university, presented to the class the varied specialties demanded of the staff of a college library. Mr Keogh was followed by Miss Isadore G. Mudge, reference librarian at Columbia university, who spoke upon the administration of the reference department. The last lecturer of the term was Dr Azariah S. Root of Oberlin college who gave a most interesting

talk on the college library and community service.

Plans are under way for the spring trip which begins March 23 and includes many of the libraries of New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE,
Vice-director.

Riverside, Cal.

The Riverside Library Service school has just completed a successful session with 21 students registered. Besides members of the staff of the library, the teaching force included Miss Roxana Johnson for cataloging, classification; W. Elmo Reavis, book binding; Miss Zulema Kostomlatsky, book selection and loan work; Miss Anna K. Fossler, reference, periodicals and documents, and Mrs Hildegard Flügel Millar, business libraries. The latter course was given at greater length than usual, the afternoons of five weeks being allotted for the development of this subject. Aside from the long course students, the class contained a large proportion of those already engaged in library work, a number of the students being from outside of California.

Bertha Hole, '21, has resigned as assistant in the Corona public library to take the librarianship of the Yorba Linda district library.

Cora Wise, '22, has been appointed branch librarian of the Los Angeles public library.

Simmons college

As printing, binding and mending were features of the instruction for the month, visits were made to the Riverside Press and Barnard's bindery. Miss Ruby Tillinghast gave mending demonstrations to the class, in groups of 20.

Miss Zaidee Brown gave three hours in the Administration course, February 16-19. She discussed from actual experience, library administration under trustees, commissioners and city managers. Miss Brown also spoke of the librarian and the staff. Our comment on that lecture would begin, "Humanly speaking—"

To accommodate the field work, examinations were given two weeks before

the end of the term, and the students went out for practice from March 5-16. The spring vacation follows immediately, college reopening for the final term on March 26.

All librarians know that "the Antioch plan," tho novel to some other educators, has been in practice in library schools from Wisconsin eastward for many a year. It would be an interesting task to write a paper for an educational journal on "Library schools as pedagogical innovators." Many of our critics inside the profession might be surprised to see how good a case could be made.

The staff of the library school are coöperating in a course the Lynn public library is giving to its staff. Five members each gave one talk.

During the spring vacation, Simmons college housed the eighth Annual institute for librarians, arranged by the Massachusetts Library commissioners for March 20-23. The college dormitories were open to the visitors for the week. The library school regretted that during the vacation its own students lost the opportunity to attend this institute.

Miss Donnelly attended the Atlantic City meeting, which now seems an unbelievable mirage against the reality of a New England winter. Two of our graduates, Miss Alice Kendall and Miss Rebecca Rankin, were on the program, and at least five other "Simmons girls" were present.

The college has promised to continue its offer of a scholarship to a French librarian for the year 1923-24.

Miss Harriet Howe will take advantage of her "Sabbatical year," during 1923-24, and Miss Mary E. Hyde will return for the year to carry the cataloging instruction.

JUNE R. DONNELLY,
Director.

Western Reserve university

Miss Julia W. Merrill, Ohio State Library organizer, was a welcome visitor a few weeks ago and spoke on state library extension under the new Ohio administration, and of the work of a library organizer.

An unusual bookbuying trip to Europe was the subject of a recent informal talk by W. W. Bishop, librarian of the University of Michigan. The purchase in Paris of a rare private library of Americana for the University library gave Mr. Bishop a variety of experiences in examining and evaluating the collection and in packing and forwarding it to the United States.

The second semester began with the course on the History of the printed book and on Great libraries, given by Prof A. S. Root of Oberlin college; this has just been concluded, the last lecture being with lantern slides of famous libraries.

John Farrar, editor of *The Bookman*, spoke, February 19, before a joint meeting of the newly organized Cleveland library club and the Western Reserve library school on "Literary scene in America," giving vivid and entertaining estimates of present day writers.

During the week of the N. E. A. meeting in Cleveland, the school was favored with visits from three library speakers of note; Miss Mary Eileen Ahern, editor of *PUBLIC LIBRARIES*, spoke on The incentives and motives entering into the choice of library work as a vocation; Miss Martha C. Pritchard, supervisor of school libraries for the city of Detroit, told of that work; and Joseph L. Wheeler, librarian of the Youngstown public library, who presented the field of library administration from the point of view of community contacts.

Mrs Eleanor E. Ledbetter, librarian of the Broadway branch of the Cleveland public library and chairman of the A. L. A. committee of Work with the foreign born, is giving a series of lectures on Library work with the foreign born.

ALICE S. TYLER,
Director.

Summer schools

The usual two-course summer library school will be held at University of Illinois. The first course will cover

the work of the regular library school, taking one-fourth of a year's work. The other is intended for assistants in Illinois libraries. Application should be sent in promptly. Full information will be sent on request.

The annual session of the Chautauqua school for librarians will be held, July 7-August 18. Instruction in every line and interesting events are open to the library classes. The school will be under the direction of Miss Mary E. Downey, director, State library commission, Bismarck, N. D.

The Pennsylvania library extension division will hold a summer school for library workers at the State college, June 25-August 3. Full information will be sent on request by the Library Extension division, State library, Harrisburg, Pa.

Prof Manly of the English department, University of Chicago, has authorized a course in library methods in the University college for the spring quarter. Description of basic reference books, both general and special; use of reference books, public documents and catalogs in libraries, will be presented. Minor credit will be given. There will be 12 meetings held, on Saturday mornings, in charge of Miss Cora M. Gettys, reference librarian, Harper library. The meetings will be held in Room 605, 116 South Michigan Avenue.

A summer school conducted jointly by the New Hampshire College library and the Public library commission of New Hampshire will be held in Durham, July 23-August 3.

The staff of instructors will be made up as follows: Miss Frances Hobart, Cambridge, Vermont, cataloging and subject headings; Miss Clara W. Hunt, Public library, Brooklyn, N. Y., children's work; Miss Ruth Dudley, Manchester, N. H., reference work; Miss Helen G. Cushing, Public library, Boston, classification; Willard P. Lewis, New Hampshire state college, Durham, order work and selection of books.

Other lectures, of an inspirational and recreational nature, will be added. The special opportunities of the college summer school will be available to the students. New Hampshire librarians will receive free tuition.

Books on Radio

After seeking advice from radio experts the Minneapolis public library has chosen the following books for large duplication in the effort to meet the demand of radio fans:

Ballantine, Stuart. Radio telephony for amateurs. 1922. McKay. \$1.50.

Less elementary and requires more knowledge of the sciences than most of the popular texts. Very good for the older amateur.

Ballard, W. C., Jr. Elements of radio telephony. 1922. McGraw. \$1.50.

Accurate, reliable information — the work of a recognized authority. Emphasizes the use of the vacuum tube and does not include the construction of the simplest crystal sets.

Cockaday, L. M. Radio telephony for everyone. 1922. Stokes. \$1.50.

One of the simplest texts and one of the most popular — includes everything in detail; theory, construction, circuit diagrams, sending, etc.

Hausmann, Erich, ed. Radiophone receiving. 1922. Van Nostrand. \$1.50.

Written by nine specialists. A little beyond the average radio fan — more technical than most of the other books.

Lescarboua, A. C. Radio for everybody. 1922. Munn. \$1.50.

Best all-around text for the amateur. Recommended for first purchase and for duplication.

Ranger, R. H. Radio pathfinder. 1922. Doubleday. \$1.50.

A very amusing little book describing the activities of King Electron and illustrated by attractive drawings of the fast moving billions of electrons and showing their relation to radio. Of practical value as well as of interest to the general reader.

Snodgrass, R. T., & Camp, V. F. Radio receiving for beginners. 1922. Macmillan. \$1.

Assumes no previous knowledge of radio. Simple enough for a boy of eight to understand if he is interested.

A. L. A. Headquarters desires to assemble a file of library staff plays, including, of course, plays written and produced by library school classes.

There is no thought of publishing or mimeographing at the present time, but single copies in manuscript will be valuable for loan purposes.

Any librarian who has such a play is asked to send a copy of it to Headquarters.

Department of School Libraries

High-School Debating Material

(Concluded)

For material on a specific subject, probably the best helps are those published by the Wilson people. Of these there are: Twenty-five of the *Debater's handbook series*, each on a specific subject; seven numbers of the *Abridged debaters' handbook series*; eight *University debaters' annuals*, three of which are out-of-print; and nineteen of the *Handbook series*, some of which are useful in debate work. Recently, Wilsons have started to publish the *Reference Shelf* at \$4.50 per year, or for 10 numbers. Each number takes up a topic of current interest. The 6 numbers now out are: Cancellation of the allied debt, China and Japan, a study outline, St. Lawrence ship canal, and the Kansas industrial law, the Towner-Sterling bill and Cabinet form of government. The numbers may be obtained separately at 75 cents.

Another current debating help is the *Congressional Digest*, published monthly in Washington, D. C. Each number is devoted to one subject, and the following have now been discussed: The bonus, ship-subsidy, tariff bill, naturalization, and the budget bill. This publication is edited by Alice Gram.

The use of material that I have mentioned would mean access to a library of size. No doubt many high schools wish to do something in debate, which could not have this material. A small collection, costing but a few dollars, may be suggested, such as—

Clark—Interpretation of the printed page.
Robert—Rules of order.
Robbins—High school debate book.
Cody—World's best orations.
Bliss—Cyclopedia of social reform.
Congressional record.
World almanac.

Literary Digest, *Survey*, and special numbers of *Reference Shelf* or the *Congressional Digest*.

This is a personal suggestion but I believe that with this small collection,

or a similar one, a good encyclopedia, the usual histories to be found in schools, and an interested teacher, really worth while debating work may be done in any high school. For after all, in any line of work, it is not the quantity of material that counts most, but its wise selection and enthusiastic use.

Bibliography of books mentioned in paper*

- Alden, R. M. Art of debate. 1900. Holt.
Askew, J. B. Pros and cons. 1900. Dutton.
Bradley, C. B. Orations and arguments. Ginn.
Brookings, M. D., and Ringwalt, R. C. Briefs for debate. 1906. Longmans.
Burton, Alexander. Public speaking made easy. c1920. Clode.
Clark, S. H. Interpretation of the printed page. c1915. Row.
Cody, Sherwin. Selections from world's great orations. 1917. McClurg.
Coe, Mrs H. C. A. B. C. of parliamentary law. 1921. Friedmans.
Congressional digest: ed. by Alice Gram. Monthly. Wash., D. C.
Craig, A. H. Pros and cons. 1897. Hinds.
Esenwein, J. B. & Carnaguy, Dale. Art of public speaking, c1915. Home correspondence school.
Everts, K. J. Vocal expression. Harper.
Foster, W. T. Argumentation and debating. 1917. Houghton.
Foster, W. T. Debating for boys. 1915. Sturgis.
Foster, W. T. Essentials of exposition and argument. 1911. Houghton.
Fulton, R. I. & Trueblood, T. C. British and American eloquence. Ginn.
Gregg. Handbook of parliamentary law. Ginn.
Harding, S. B. Select orations illustrating American political history. Macmillan.
Johnston, Alexander. American orations. 4v. Putnam.
Laycock, Craven & Spofford, A. K. Manual of argumentation for high schools. 1912. Macmillan.
Lyon, L. S. Elements of debating. 1913. University of Chicago.
Phelps, E. M. Debaters' manual. 4th ed. 1922. Wilson.
Ringwalt, R. C. Briefs on public questions. 1919. Longmans.
Robbins, E. C. High school debate book. 5th ed. 1917. McClurg.

(*Not including general reference books.)

- Robert, H. M. Parliamentary practice. 1921. Century.
 Robert, H. M. Rules of order. 1915. Scott.
 Shurter, E. D. Masterpieces of modern oratory. Ginn.
 Thomas, R. W. Manual of debate. 1910. American book.
 Watkins, D. E. & Williams, R. E. Forum of democracy. 1917. Allyn.
 Wilson, H. W. Publications.
 Abridged debaters' handbook series. 7v.
 Debaters' handbook series. 25v.
 Handbook series. 19v.
 Reference shelf, a periodical. 10 nos. to the year.
 University debaters' annuals. 8v. 3v. o.p.

What the Normal School Student Should Get Out of the Course on the Use of Books and Libraries

In one respect at least, any study of the Normal student and his problems should be like the study given to a biography; in the latter case, begin with his ancestry to determine what forces were at work to produce seen results; in the former, consider what his background may be, intellectually, socially and spiritually, for each counts; consider what spirit he brings to his work, especially to the library phase of it; what his probable I. Q. And this to determine not only what facts should be presented to him, but also what motivation will be necessary.

It is the high-school product which presents itself to the librarian for instruction in the use of books and libraries—this strange new product of the jazz age, the independent age, the cigarette age.* Personally, the high-school student is open to any subject that blows, tho he confessedly belongs to the self-determinative age. He proposes to experiment with life, the good and the bad alike. He will have no second-hand information. There are few mysteries and fewer modesties or

reserves of feeling or thinking left. Why pretend to any modesties when there is nothing left to be modest about? Why expect delicacy of feeling from a member of the jazz-band? What place has idealism in this get-there-with-both-feet age?

Books and libraries? Necessary evils (except fiction, of course)—good for cramming and for grinds and nobodies, tho this may have been said in that "haste" which the Psalmist mentions. Not but that he is perfectly willing to acquire knowledge, provided it requires little effort, or provided it appeals to the limited range of his mental activities. He is avid of pleasure, but what pleasure comes from books in general? Let us then be up and *doing*. True, he is unwilling to remain ignorant, but he expects the stoking process to proceed as painlessly as possible. A purpose in life? Indeed he has! Perfectly simple—to go girling; to go boying. And he is entirely frank in the matter, for it is his frankness upon which he prides himself. He knows his elders know the the main thing in life—only they are so painfully coy about it! True, this "he" is largely *she* in a normal school. A lipstick'd, roug'd and slightly cynical she, scant of skirt and scunter yet of mental apparel. And do such as these, holding license above freedom, and pleasure above duty—do such as these present themselves as the instructors and moulders of the coming age? Shades of our Puritan Fathers, to whom education was only a lesser god, and the book a sacrament! If you doubt, go visit the high-schools, take stock of the incoming normalite! Truly, motivation is going to be necessary.

No, no, they are by no means all like that. It is still true that there are high-schools and high-schools—and homes and homes. I speak of the commonality only. And, too, the flapper flaps openly, the real student is about her business and is not in evidence. Moreover, there are plenty of sub-flappers, such as Ellen Welles

*There are two general classes of high school students—the small group of earnest-minded book-loving people, the far larger group of pleasure-loving, non-intellectual jazz-minded individuals who dominate, who to so large a degree place their stamp upon the high school product.

Page who writes so appealingly in a recent issue of the *Outlook* (Dec. 6) for understanding and sympathy on the part of the Elders in Israel. G. Stanley Hall appears to meet this need in his *Flapper Americana Novissima* which appeared in the June issue of the *Atlantic*. After all, Flapperdom is a state of mind. It may be a passing state, it may be leading to a future state; but just now it is a very-much-in-evidence state, and a state with no particular leaning toward books or the intellectual life. But even among sub-flappers, those who come to the normal-school with a purpose to work, to acquire, to assimilate, who come with a background of reading, or even of good English—these stand out above their fellows with a distinction unmistakable.

The library which I serve is in some respects more fortunate than some, whose patrons come with definite ideals, tho less knowledge; who know something of home discipline; who are still conscious of the rouge and are sometimes a bit wondering as to whether there are no limits at all.

All these things are mentioned, not so much for what they are, as for what they indicate as to a state of mind—a painful lack of idealism and lack of desire for any intellectual attainment requiring sincere effort; a state of mind which substitutes beauty and graciousness in the mode of living, for beauty and graciousness of an informed and disciplined spirit. A state of mind, we must admit, not wholly peculiar to this generation. But such are the youths, who present themselves for instruction in the use of books and libraries. They may not go from our hand, to quote Willard Thorp in the *August Forum*, writing upon "This flapper age"—they may not go from our hand having so far failed to persuade them that intellectual things are lasting, that sanity and wisdom may be gained by study, tempered with understanding.

What shall we give them? Evidently their instruction must be technical, practical and inspirational. The tech-

nical includes so much of the D. C. as will enable the student to find his way around the library. A lecture on the value of the library in education; what helps a teacher may expect from it, and *vice versa*. A knowledge of and individual instruction in the use of the card catalog; a study and report upon the magazines, noting the best known editors and the book reviews; a lesson upon the use of the *Reader's Guide*, and also government documents; one on the process of making the book; a study of individual reference works, beginning with the dictionaries and encyclopedias; then works pertaining to education, literature, handbooks, statistics and biography. These lessons conducted on the usual plan of presenting a copy in brief form, of notes about the reference works, taken from the reference works themselves, or from Kroeger's guide and followed by a problem to be worked out in them. The notes are to be copied in a note book and learned; the problems handed in after discussion. A notebook should be kept all thro the course of 18 lessons and looked over at the end of the semester.

What will the student get out of it? Primarily, an assurance that he knows how to use this or any other library. For him, the card catalog has no terrors; there is no lion upon the pathway to the stack—for be it known that in the Normal school, the stack is still open.

The student should carry away a knowledge of what reference works will be useful to him for the most common inquiries. The acquaintance with the best magazines, editors and book reviews may or may not have inspired him with a desire for further acquaintance. That will depend upon the individual.

But this is only a beginning of what should be. Far and above all that, the real librarian will see her opportunity to help meet the problem presented by this new generation—to awaken dormant vision—to inspire a love for books and reading—to foster idealism—to show that really interesting things may develop from a study even of reference works—that there is joy in working to-

gether to attain knowledge. Unless the student carries away an awakened spirit, a desire to get more and be more thru books and their message, this course is not functioning in its highest capacity.

The fostering of idealism. Just precisely how? Doubtless each has her own methods, but the story motivation is always available, if not too obvious. In the magazine lesson, for example, awaken a personal interest in editors, past and present—in George Harvey, Lyman Abbott and Henry Mills Alden or others, from the depths of your own interest in their writings and accomplishments. Provide a few pegs upon which memory may hang the facts of these strange gentlemen and their unheard of doings. Bring in a laugh—give Carolyn Wells' toast given at the Harper banquet in honor of the seventieth birthday of Henry Mills Alden, to which all the literati of the country were invited:

A toast to H. M. Alden,
Of editors the Dean,
And what does the H. M. stand for?
Why—Harper's Magazine!

And who are all these people,
Who grace this festive scene?
O—we are the living index
To Harper's Magazine!

Mention another of her toasts given at a similar banquet in honor of Clemens' seventieth birthday, when he made his famous Pier 70 speech. Show the difference in style between the literary Alden, the terse, biting English of Harvey, and the wonderful clarity of the spiritually-minded Abbott. Help them see the power wielded by these men—power gained by an ideal, by self mastery (including mastery of English) and by a spirit of service.

But come now—to motivate such a general and really interesting topic as magazines is one thing; to motivate such a dry affair as the D. C., now—just how would you go about that? To be sure, to be sure. But even the D. C. has its possibilities. The story of the development of mankind, beginning with man, the thinker, 100; his conception of a higher power, 200; con-

sciousness of social relationships, 300; the rise of a more perfect use of language, 400; the study of nature and her powers, 500; the application of them to the useful and the fine arts; and finally the history of all achievement, 900. O yes, the whole of mankind may march across the screen in logical sequence and interesting manner—just to motivate the D. C. (But one should have read Van Loon!) But where lies the ideal? Hard work, accomplishment, progress thru self discipline, thru knowledge, thru thinking. And will such ideals appeal to the flapper you have been complaining about? To some, at least. Moreover, take time to advertise books for reading, such books as are interesting, practical and inspirational; such as will drive home these very ideals; for example, Washington's Up from slavery; Helen Keller's life; Tarbell's He knew Lincoln; Stern, My Mother and I; Van Dyke's Valley of vision; Faris' Book of courage. A word of personal commendation goes farther than much print. And Van Dyke speaks louder than you or I.

Experience shows that the vision can be caught, even in such evil days as the Psalmist mentions. These young faces, a bit skeptical, sometimes indifferent, often questioning, *do* soften to the advance of a new horizon. For whatever the outward differences, the youth of today as of yesterday, is susceptible to idealism, to a new vision—tho we must admit, it does seem harder to awaken.

The fact is that not only the youth, but even their elders are still passing thru the sheep age—led, not leading. But why condemn? If we condemn youth, much more must we condemn that portion of their elders who have led the way toward this careless, pleasure-loving, non-idealistic mode of life. Instead of wholesale condemnation, why not study them, meet them, find them and love them? The flapperest flapper is loveable for her frank facing of life's problems, whatever other deficiencies there may be. She is facing life's problems much younger than you or I and

with less equipment in the way of standards of living as to duty, self mastery, the need of living with real books and genuine ideals.

It is a difficult age, difficult to understand—shocks even the mothers, whereas former generations of flapper age shocked merely the grandmothers. It is difficult to see whither present tendencies are leading. But who knows what patriotic service a mere librarian may render, in her course on books and libraries, by awakening the careless to thought, by enlarging the vision, by awakening an ideal—thru books and the love of them.

HARRIETT KING AVERY,

State normal library,
Keystone, Pa.

Resolutions at Cleveland

Resolutions of the Department of superintendents meeting at Cleveland in March were unusually strong. The points emphasized were:

- 1) Reëndorsement of the Towner-Sterling bill for the fifth time.
- 2) Setting aside of an Education week.
- 3) Enlarged financial support granted education by legislatures, boards of education and a responsive public.
- 4) Endorsement of the expressed intention of Congress to make the school system of Washington the model school system for the country.
- 5) Contemplated plan for competent and professionally trained county superintendents of schools in every state in the Union.

The spirit of the class-room teachers of America was strongly commended and an appeal for better support was made.

The California school library association, at the request of the State department of education, has prepared a list of books for the high school libraries of California. These were prepared by a committee including high school librarians from San Diego, Santa Monica, Pasadena, Long Beach, Redlands, Ontario, Oakland, and Los Angeles. In selecting the titles, the committee has had in mind high schools of varied character. It is not probable that any high school will care to purchase all of the titles mentioned,

but each school should find a list of books suited for its own needs. Other lists have been freely used and much appreciated and large indebtedness is therefor acknowledged. The lists cover biography, fiction, history, science and sociology. Criticisms or suggestions should be addressed to Marjorie Van Deusen, High school, 4900 Country Club Drive, Los Angeles, Cal.

Bookbinding in High-Schools

The Employing Book Binders of America have undertaken to foster attention to the workmanship of bookbinding in the Junior and Senior high-schools thruout the United States and Canada. One of the interesting things that have been discovered is that where bookbinding has been taken up in the public schools there has been a marked improvement in the care of all kind of books by its students.

The association will be very glad to hear from schools having bookbinding courses that might be interested in an exhibit furnished by the schools having such courses as part of the manual training classes.

Such an exhibition will be given at the next annual convention of the Employing Book Binders of America, which will be held in Washington, D. C., in October.

The Vocational committee having in charge the idea of the school work, has been appointed as follows:

Chairman, Frank M. Barnard, 105 Federal St., Boston; Wm J. Windisch, 520 Fourth St., West, Detroit; Ray E. Bayliss, 461 Eighth Ave., New York City; E. C. J. Hertzberg, 1751 Belmont Ave., Chicago.

O could I see you now, my book,
As clean as in days gone by,
Before the borrowers carried you off
And left me to weep and sigh!

Go for my wandering book tonight,
Go search for it where you will,
And bring it to me, tho ragged and torn,
For I can rebind it still.

News from the Field

East

Priscilla Bancroft, Simmons '18, has been appointed librarian of the Free public library, Proctor, Vermont.

F. K. W. Drury, associate librarian, Brown university, is scheduled in the Extension department for a course in readings—Ten plays from ten nations.

Harriet Robinson, Simmons '12-'14, has been appointed a cataloger at the Redwood library and Athenaeum, Newport, Rhode Island.

Lucy Bell, Simmons '14, will be the assistant in charge of the library and the reviser for the library school during the coming summer session at Simmons college.

Isabel Dunn, Simmons '19, has accepted the position of assistant cataloger at the Public library, Lynn, Massachusetts, and will be the reviser for the Columbia University summer school.

Pamela Robbins, Simmons '08, spec., has been obliged to resign her position as librarian of the Public library, Southington, Connecticut, on account of the illness of her father. She is now at her home in Falmouth, Massachusetts.

Charles K. Bolton, librarian of the Boston Athenaeum, celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of his assuming that position on March 22. Mr Bolton was the recipient of many congratulations from his public which is made up largely of members of the Athenaeum. Before going to the Athenaeum, Mr Bolton had charge of the Public library of Brookline, Massachusetts.

Central Atlantic

L. Marion Moshier, Simmons' 19, has been appointed librarian of the Public library, Iliion, New York.

Cornelia C. White has resigned her position with The John Crerar library to become Alumni secretary and librarian of Cazenovia seminary, Cazenovia, N. Y.

Helen A. Russell, Simmons '16, formerly on the staff of the Public library, Buffalo, and for two years past, assistant librarian of the Geneseo State Normal school, N. Y., has been appointed librarian of Central rural school, Chazy, N. Y.

Miss Ola M. Wyeth has been made chief of the Library department of the U. S. Veterans' bureau, Washington, D. C., to succeed Miss Caroline Webster, resigned. Miss Webster on February 22, became Mrs Louis D. Lovett, and can be reached at the following address: Care of Mrs Philip Smith, Short Hills, N. J.

The Catholic university, Washington, D. C., has been the recipient of a collection of famous books which has grown up thru many decades in the archdiocese of Baltimore. In the collection are a number of very rare volumes, some of them printed before Columbus discovered America. It is thought that the books will have larger usefulness at the Catholic university than in Baltimore as the professors have had to go to Baltimore frequently to consult them.

Central

Abbie Allen, Simmons '11, has been appointed to the catalog staff of the Public library, Cleveland, Ohio.

Gertrude Clark, Simmons '21 spec., has resigned her position in the Public library, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Hamilton county, Ohio, has a bill in the legislature asking for \$2,500,000 for a new library building for Cincinnati.

The report of the Public library of Davenport, Iowa, records number of books on the shelves, 78,158; number of card-holders, 17,999; total circulation, 456, 464v.; population, 56,727.

Miss Harriett Boswell has joined the staff of the Lincoln library, Springfield, Illinois, where she will have charge of the circulation department. Miss Boswell was formerly connected with the Public library of Paducah, Kentucky.

The annual report of the Free public library of Lorain, Ohio, records a circulation of 92,654v., an increase of 17 per cent; population, 37,295; registered borrowers, 9813; income, \$16,282; expenditures, \$11,875, leaving an unexpended balance of \$4407.

Miss Corinne Kittelson, Wisconsin '10, has resigned as head of the catalog department of the Los Angeles County free library to become catalog reviser in the University of Minnesota library. Minneapolis is her home.

A gift of a valuable medical library, belonging to Sir Norman Walker of Edinburgh, has been presented to the University of Iowa.

Sir Norman Walker is a leading physician in Scotland and author of a number of authentic medical works, and the gift which he has made to the medical school of Iowa university consists of books and material that he has collected during his life.

Lucy Park Williams, Illinois '07, for a number of years in charge of the branch collections of the Withers public library, Bloomington, Illinois, has resigned to accept the librarianship of the Buck memorial library, Illinois Wesleyan university, Bloomington.

The Minneapolis public library opened a hospital library service on February 1 in charge of a trained librarian.

To supplement the collection purchased by the library, a call for gifts from citizens was made during a Hospital book-week. Such wide publicity was given to this thru newspapers, clubs, churches, and schools that 3000 books were donated in one week. Delayed gifts brought up the number to nearly 5000.

The report of the Hackley public library of Muskegon, Michigan, records 57,690v. on the shelves, a circulation of 141,793v. among 4200 registered borrowers in a population of 46,000. This library which is an endowed library, serves the county as well as the city of Muskegon.

Receipts for the year, \$54,523; administration expenses—library service salaries, \$15,564, operation, \$5037; maintenance, \$12,262; furniture and equipment, \$9483; books, \$6276.

Statistics for 1922 for the Public library, Fort Dodge, Iowa, record the following: Number of books on the shelves, 23,364; added during the year, 1937; number of volumes lent to distributing agencies, 3630; number of volumes lent for home use, 162,646; number of borrowers' cards in force, 4891; population served, 19,333; receipts for the year, \$20,565; expenditures—books, \$2602; binding, \$1039; salaries—library service, \$6475; janitor, \$1395; total expenditures, \$14,170. The balance will meet the expenses of administration until May 1, 1923.

The annual report of the Chicago public library for 1922 records a circulation of 8,825,773v., thru 2,215 agencies. Of these, 1935 were school deposits in 236 schools. These latter contain 96,000v. with a circulation of 820,560v.

The resumption of full time activities in the school libraries and the increase in the number of their books resulted in a heavy gain in use. The only activity showing loss was the business house deposits, many of which were discontinued at the request of the employers.

The book borrowers number 419,722; 37 branches and 7 high school libraries are in operation.

Income for the year, \$1,231,028. Payroll, \$691,350. Increase of employees from 520 to 685. Volumes in the library, 1,213,835.

A very interesting report of Library Week as it was observed by the Jennings County public library, North Vernon, Indiana, has been received.

One of the forms of publicity was a pageant representing "Friends in Bookland." More than 20 books were represented in character and costume by a group of users of the library. Much printed material giving information and suggestions about using books thruout

the county, particularly in the schools, was issued.

A special feature was Tree-Planting day, in which 400 children participated in the exercises around the library. Riley's poetry furnished much of the spirit of the work and gave point to the efforts of the children. Former prominent citizens of Indianapolis and Jennings county also had special mention.

The library at North Vernon is the library of the entire county, the residents of which are tremendously interested in its growth and service.

This library is in its third year and from the statistics offered, is doing good work.

The budget of appropriation for the Chicago public library for 1923 calls for an expenditure of \$1,312,723. This sum has been allotted to a number of necessary uses in such proportion as seems fair. Of the principal expenditures, books call for \$200,000; salaries, \$805,000. The force on the staff numbers 685 persons and many of the branches are under-staffed. There is great need for new branches but there are not means at hand for providing them. The per capita income of the library is 55 cents. Judging by the table of salaries in the 35 large libraries, printed in the *A. L. A. Bulletin* for November, 1922, the Chicago public library ranks very near the top in the rates, both minimum and maximum, fixed for the several grades of library employment. The only practical basis for salary administration in any large organization is that of fixing the price of the job to which individuals are of necessity subordinated. No other method is either reasonable, fair or business-like.—*Condensed from Staff News, Chicago public library.*

The following persons have been added to the staff of the Chicago public library:

Director of training class, Louise Singley, graduate, and formerly on the faculty of Carnegie library school, Pittsburgh, recently librarian U. S. Public Health service, Ft. Bayard, N. M., and Camp Kearney, Calif.

Adah F. Whitcomb, Pittsburgh, recently director, has been transferred to the newly established school department which she will organize and direct.

High-school librarians, Helen F. Butler, Pittsburgh, recently head of circulation department, State Normal College library, Ypsilanti, Mich.; Mabel Watts, late school librarian and teacher of English, Tower, Minn.; Clara G. Sullivan, late librarian, J. Sterling Morton high-school, Berwyn; Leah TenCate and Jennie TenCate, both of Chicago.

Catalogers, Elizabeth M. King, Pratt, recently cataloger, Cleveland public library; Florence M. Wilkie, N. Y. S., recently librarian, School of Forestry library, Yale university, New Haven, Conn.

Nathan R. Levin, Ph.B., University of Chicago, B.L.S., N. Y. S., has been appointed assistant librarian of the Chicago public library following a non-assembled civil service examination. Mr Levin has been on the staff of the Chicago public library for 16 years. He attended New York State library school on leave, 1917-18, and spent the following year in war work as assistant at Camp Mead, New York, and camp librarian at Kelly Field, Tex.

South

Lucy E. Fay has resigned the position of librarian of the University of Tennessee and is taking a year's rest in the North Carolina mountains, at Edneyville, N. C.

A gift of \$25,000 has been made to the city of Danville, Virginia, by Miss Bland Schoolfield for a library building. J. E. Perkinson has offered to give \$10,000 for the equipment of such a building. The Danville library association has turned over the 500 volumes which it owned since the city has made provision for a library.

The annual report of the Public library of Lexington, Kentucky, records a circulation of 61,799v., with 7753 card holders in a population of 41,534. Salaries, \$3895; books, \$1660;

which, with other expenditures, made a disbursement of \$11,363 from an income of \$11,766.

The report of Miss Julia Ideson, librarian, Public library, Houston, Texas, for the year 1922 records a vote of the citizens for bonds to the amount of \$200,000 for the first unit of a new library building as the outstanding event of the year. The principal gift during the period was that of Sigmund J. Westheimer, the Attwater collection of natural history.

Number of books on the shelves, 82,508; books loaned for home reading, 361,295, an increase of 20 per cent, thru 23 agencies; number of cardholders, 34,974. Expenditures: salaries, \$23,408; books, \$8910, periodicals, \$1118; binding, \$1770.

The report of the Oklahoma library commission records approximately 75,000 rural readers. Of these, 60,000 are reached thru traveling libraries. Of these latter, 12,000 have been sent into different parts of the state, January, 1921—June 1922. The commission has 18,000 books and pamphlets for circulation. Of these, 600v. are for the blind, exclusive of alphabet sheets, primers, etc. An average of two Revised Braille books for the blind was sent out daily. Nearly 5000v. on special subjects have been sent to 3000 readers. There were 10,000 copies of Books for boys and girls of Oklahoma distributed during the year.

The national library standing of the state was raised five places.

The bond issue for public improvements in the city of St. Louis, which received the necessary two-thirds majority at a popular election on February 9 last, included an item of \$6,000,000 for a memorial plaza to be constructed by acquiring the land and removing the buildings on the blocks from Olive to Market streets between the Public library building and the new Municipal courts building. It is intended to use the unoccupied space as sites for future public buildings. This new civic center will give the

Public library building what it has always needed—a dignified setting appropriate to its architectural beauties.

The Library board has accepted from Col Isaac A. Hedges, the gift of a bronze, life size medallion portrait of the late Wm Marion Reedy, for many years editor and proprietor of the *St. Louis Mirror*, modelled by Robert Bringhurst. The medallion will be presented and accepted with appropriate exercises in the library building.

According to the report of the Missouri library commission for 1922, Missouri has 31 tax-supported public libraries, two partly supported by taxation and two wholly by endowment, all serving the public without charge. Of the 3,404,055 people of the state, 1,496,411 live in towns or cities having tax-supported library service, but 1,907,644 are without library service except thru the State library commission. No county is yet organized under the county library law but Macon and Marion counties are contributing money to public libraries in Macon and Hannibal, in return for library service rendered county residents. The proposed new constitution recommends the levying of a public library tax by any city or county, in addition to all other taxes levied. This would place library finances on an advantageous basis.

During the year, there was an increase of 30 per cent in the number of requests for books thru traveling libraries and the number of books circulated showed an increase of 19 per cent. The commission's book collection now numbers 28,428v.

The report contains statistics of 103 libraries, also half tones of public library buildings erected since 1916 and zinc etchings of their floor plans.

Pacific Coast

Marian W. Brace, Simmons '21 spec., was married, January 27, to Henry Frederick Bade in Detroit. They will live in California.

The appropriation for the State library department of Oregon was one of the few which were not cut. While the appropriation is the same, the work has increased tremendously so that it will have to be reorganized to meet the situation.

The biennial report of the California state library makes note of the inconvenience caused by inaccessible material which, for lack of space, has for some time been kept in storage until such time when space may be available in the new State library building. The ground for this building has been broken but it is problematic when the new quarters will be ready for occupancy. The board of state library trustees has been abolished and the governing board of the department of finance substituted therefor. The State purchasing department has assumed the responsibility for the purchase of all material except books, which still remains in the hands of the librarian and assistants.

The various activities of the library's departments are reviewed. The work for the blind department, the California department, the reference department, law and legislative reference department, all are actively advancing. Important additions have been made to the Sutra collection which now contains 122,569v. All but about 15 counties in the state now have free library systems, these latter being in the central and northern parts of the state.

The following changes in the staff of the Public library, Tacoma, Washington, have been made:

Nina Moran appointed Malheur County librarian, Ontario, Oregon.

Frances Town appointed an assistant in the Public library at Salem, Oregon.

Esther O. Miller appointed an assistant in the Public library, Sacramento, California.

Mrs Mary R. Edson made librarian of the branch library at South Tacoma.

Miss Jessica McKenzie of the Detroit library has accepted a five months appointment in the circulation department of the Public library, Tacoma, Washington, beginning April 9. Other changes were as follows:

Miss Ada Thacher, Public library, Kansas City, appointed in the circulation department.

Miss Ruth Davis has been granted a year's leave of absence on account of ill health.

Miss Sylvia Clark, formerly librarian of the Howe library, Hanover, New Hampshire, becomes first assistant in the catalog department.

Miss Ella Danielson, appointed head of the children's department of the Public library at Chisholm, Minnesota.

Miss Jeanette Hitchcock, appointed an assistant in the catalog department of the Leland Stanford University library.

Wanted—Position by experienced cataloger; university graduate with library training; preferably in the West. High school cataloger, Public library, Seattle, Wash.

Wanted—Position as stenographer, order clerk or assistant secretary in large public library or university library in the East. Applicant is a young woman with A. B. degree in English, with three years experience as librarian's private secretary and order clerk during college course, also other general office and library experience. Address Room 200, Tower Bldg., Chicago.

Wanted—Position as head librarian by one who is trained, experienced and capable. "She put our library on the map." Gertrude E. Aiken, 333 North Oak Park Avenue, Oak Park, Ill.

Wanted—First assistant in California county library desires temporary exchange of position with librarian in some large city, Atlantic or Middle States. Room 200, Tower Building, Chicago.